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TOPICS - OF - THE - DAY

WHY WE WENT TO WAR WITHOUT GUNS

ALTHO OUR NATIONAL COMPLACENCE was rudely jolted by the disclosures when the Senate turned the search-light on the activities of our War Department, the net effect of the jolt, declares the Boston *Transcript*, will be good for us and disastrous to Germany. For the investigation has awakened both Congress and the nation to the actuality of this war, and "an America wide-awake and on the job is an enemy that Germany can not hope to defeat." At the same time, editorial observers agree, the facts amply vindicate those unheeded advocates of preparedness who tried in vain to rouse the nation from its narcotic sense of security before the war had reached us. Nearly two years ago, *The Transcript* reminds us, Maj.-Gen. Leonard Wood testified frankly to Congress of the department's deficiencies in ordnance and equipment and supplies of all kinds—with the result that "he angered every bureaucrat responsible for the shortages and became the target for a persistent persecution by pacifists, pro-Germans, apprehensive politicians, and purblind bureaucrats that has continued ever since." Among the results of the present inquiry into the working of our war-machine the papers note a growing insistence upon the elimination of red tape, a demand for the creation of a special department of munitions—with Colonel Roosevelt, some suggest, at its head—and here and there a pointed suggestion that Secretary of War Baker should resign. Our newly created War-Council is also considered a direct result of the Congressional probing. This council consists of Secretary Baker, the Assistant Secretary of War, and five general officers of the Army, including Maj.-Gen. William Crozier, Chief of Ordnance, and Maj.-Gen. Henry G. Sharpe, Quartermaster-General, whose bureaus have not revealed a 100 per cent. efficiency under the search-light. "We shall not win the war by kicking incompetents up-stairs and continuing their incompetencies below," exclaims the Boston *Transcript*.

> "Forget how things were done before the war, eliminate red tape. We must learn with the Germans that 'the war won't wait.' Delay is the Kaiser's ally."

THE GOVERNMENT'S WAR-MOTTO.

This injunction, originally addrest by Secretary Redfield to his bureau chiefs, has been approved by President Wilson, and is to be circulated, posted up, and made a guiding rule in the transaction of all war-business.

To balance against the admitted delay in providing our soldiers with American-made artillery, rifles, and machine guns, we have the assurance that when they are so armed they will have more efficient rifles and machine guns and better ammunition than the armies of the other nations, Allied or hostile. Glancing back over the testimony, some of which was quoted in our issue of December 22, we note General Crozier's admission that, altho we have been at war more than eight months, our Army now in France is dependent for artillery and ammunition upon our French and British allies; that a shortage of rifles exists, due to the War Department's delay in deciding on the type of gun to order; that when we went to war the current output of machine guns using American ammunition "was nothing," and that the first of the Browning machine guns ordered will not be ready before spring—a situation for which General Crozier says Secretary Baker is responsible. Later, private manufacturers of arms were called before Senator Chamberlain's committee, and certain salient points in their testimony are thus summarized by C. W. Gilbert in the New York *Tribune*:

"The United States Army might now have a large number of Colt machine guns, an improvement on the Colt guns of which the British used a large number, if an order had been placed in February, when the Navy Department ordered these guns.

"An officer of the Ordnance Bureau, when approached in February with regard to machine guns, said: 'We are not interested.'

"Three months were wasted between the time the Browning gun was adopted and the time orders for it were placed.

"Had orders for this gun been placed at once deliveries would

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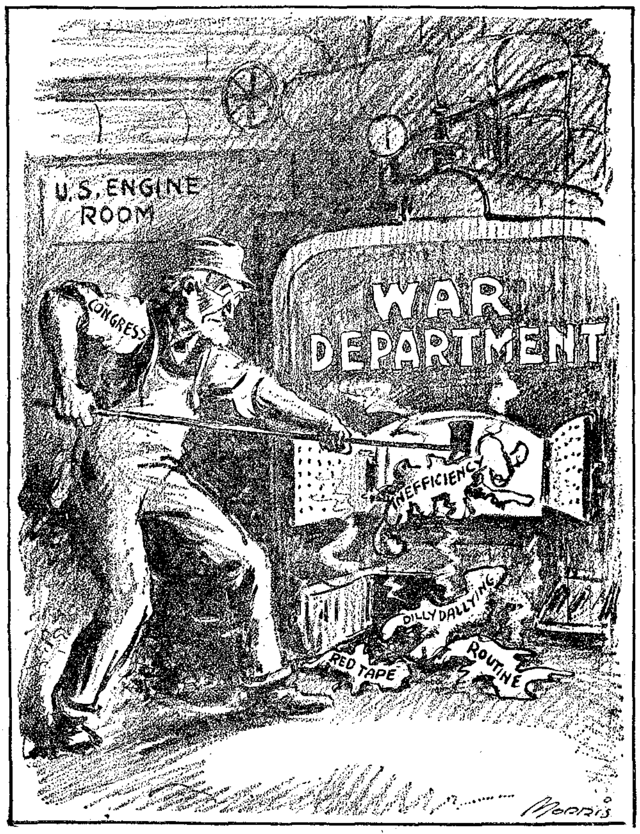
now be beginning on a considerable scale, at least from the Winchester Arms Company. Deliveries from this company will, as it is, begin three months from now. Two other companies will begin deliveries in May.

"Rifle-manufacturers approved the rechambering of the Enfield rifles to use our ammunition which would have taken thirty days.

"The War Department first decided on this change; then decided in addition to make seven parts of the Enfield interchangeable as produced in the different factories; then later, on June 15, decided that forty-four parts should be made interchangeable; then afterward added seven more parts to this list.



TAKING OUT THE CLINKERS.

—Morris in the New York *Evening Mail.*

"Manufacturers protested that these later changes would involve four to six months' delay.

"On July 2, General Crozier ordered rifle-manufacturers not to increase their working forces until interchangeability had been effected.

"On September 6 the Ordnance Bureau ordered the rifle-manufacturers to manufacture as many rifles as possible without reference to interchangeability.

"Contracts at least with one of the three rifle-making companies called for delivery only in November and two of the companies were two months ahead of contracts in making deliveries."

Representative Medill McCormick, who recently returned from the front, was called before the committee, and afterward made a statement to the press in which he challenged the theory that our allies are supplying our troops with field-guns from an ample surplus. He says:

"The British, who, in proportion to their front, have more guns by far than either of their Western allies, according to their chief military authorities, will not have guns enough until next spring. The guns which the French give us, they give us because the immediate necessities of our little Army in France are even greater than their own.

"General Pétain said to me: 'Make guns. Send us guns and ammunition rather than steel billets. We are grateful for the little force you have sent us. The echo of its footfalls carried hope to every hearth in France, but as it grows there must be a period when we shall be taxed to supply it. While its numbers slowly increase you Americans, who are a great industrial people, must see that this war is an industry of destruction. You will understand how urgent it is to send us guns, "middle heavies," and shells, in order that we may be armed to win victories and to defend ourselves so that some of us may be alive to fight by your side when at last America is ready.'

"The Italian Army, when I was on the Carso and in the Trentino, had something less than one-quarter as many guns as the British and French armies combined, altho there was no great difference in the length of the fronts. In Italy they suffered from a shortage of ammunition, which limited the extent of their advance toward Trieste and the roads to Laibach.

"The 'middle heavy' is to this war what the steam-shovel was to Panama. If we make guns enough and transport them to Europe before the spring of 1919 we ought to win this war without terrible losses. Without the guns we shall lose the men and may lose the war."

Two other Congressmen who have investigated conditions at first hand in France add their admonitions that we open our eyes to the realities of our war-problems. "For God's sake, wake up and realize what this war means," exclaims Representative Porter H. Dale, of Vermont, who declares that our troops over there lack ordnance and equipment of all sorts. And Representative Clarence B. Miller, of Minnesota, who found the same shortage of clothing and guns, says that our commanding officers in the field share his conviction that Quartermaster-General Sharpe and Ordnance Chief Crozier must go. The Washington correspondent of the New York *Tribune* quotes Mr. Miller as follows:

"It is the duty of all to push forward and support officials charged with the conduct of the war. But if it appears that a man is grossly inefficient or a department is improperly managed, we should have no hesitancy in telling about it in order that the highest efficiency may be secured. We can never do our best with incompetents or blunderers managing our important departments.

"It is not so much how many men we have overseas as how efficient they are. Many of those there are not equipped and not yet trained. There are many engineer and forestry regiments which are not fighting units.

"The American troops in France virtually are without 3-inch guns, a prime essential of either defensive or offensive operations. By this I mean to say they are without American guns. We have been able to buy a few guns from France, but the supply is not sufficient.

"There are many batteries which have been sent to France that have not yet had a gun to train with or use in any form.

"There is a shortage of clothing, and I don't care who says to the contrary. There is a shortage of nearly all the supplies needed to equip troops in the field.

"If it is stated our troops have an abundance of supplies, ask whether or not our army officials, in despair of receiving suitable and sufficient clothing for our men over there, ordered uniforms a short time ago from the already overtaxed English firms.

"Have we not been obliged to increase the burden on our allies which we ought to be lifting?

"On October 31 there were in France, in the nature of supplies in store and available for men there and those to come, 12,000 shirts, 1,500 ponchos, 7,000 slickers, 45,000 pairs of shoes, and 65 hats.

"There is not the slightest doubt that these conditions and a great many more I do not feel at liberty to mention are due to the two major-generals who are and for a long time have been the heads of the Ordnance Department and the Quartermaster's Department of our Army."

In spite of the admitted necessity of speeding up in all branches of arms manufacture, we read in a Christmas-day dispatch from New Haven that "munition-plants in Connecticut, 'the arsenal of America,' are slowing down."

General Crozier's testimony revealed the fact that altho twelve millions was appropriated in August, 1916, for machine guns, no steps were taken to make use of this appropriation until June, 1917, ten months after the appropriation was made, and two months after our entrance into the war. Commenting on this fact, the Chicago *Tribune* says:

"Now this delay was in the teeth of the revelation made when our Army was mobilized for border service. The vital importance of the machine gun had been demonstrated by two years of bloody experience in Europe. The ratio of these guns to infantry had been rapidly increased in foreign armies under the influence of these practical lessons abroad. Our more alert Army men recognized the need of them, and the newspapers, notably *The Tribune*, called repeatedly for the Government to make provision. Hence the appropriation passed by Congress.

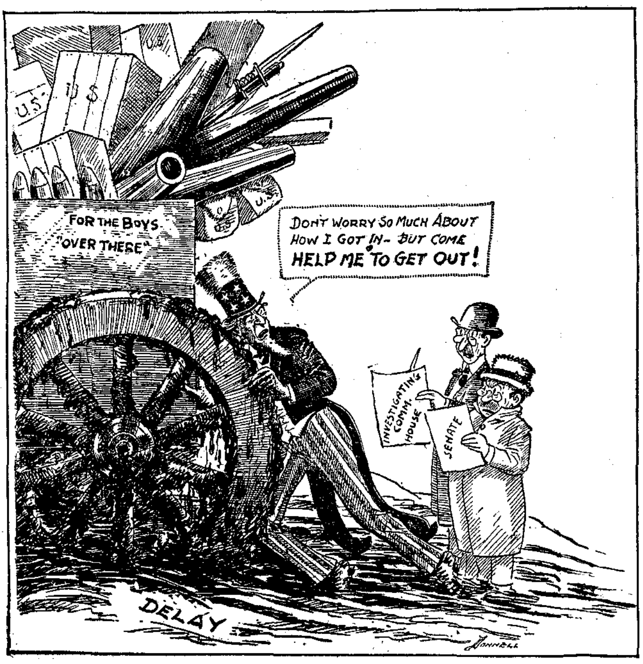
"This delay expresses in concrete form as strikingly as anything the spirit of procrastination which has retarded our ordnance preparations. Congress' skirts are absolutely clear of blame in this case. But tho the stand taken by the President in the submarine controversy and the whole current of tendency was sweeping us nearer to the world-war, the pacifist appeal to go slow on preparedness seems to have found a complete acquiescence in the War Department and Administration generally.

"The failure to supply machine guns for our existing troops was an offense against the principle of minimum national defense entirely apart from our going into this war. But it is impossible to understand why, in the view of the imminence of probable war last year and even our actual entrance into the war this year, the Government has acted as if either war for us was impossible or we had unlimited time to get ready actually to take part in it."

Col. Isaac N. Lewis, inventor of the Lewis machine gun, told the old story of his failure to induce the Ordnance Bureau to use his gun, even as a gift to the Government. He went on to say:

> "More than 70,000 of the Lewis guns are in the hands of fighting men in Europe to-day, and 2,000 are being added every week. The British tanks carry 12,000 of them. Ten out of the twelve *Zeppelins* brought down were brought down by Lewis guns.
>
> "I have been persecuted for many years. My story of the Lewis gun is not a pleasant one, for it is not a credit to the Bureau of Ordnance of the Army. . . . . .
>
> "In my opinion only two types of machine gun will survive this war. One is the water-cooled, heavy Vickers, and the other the Lewis.
>
> "Your Browning gun is a figment of the imagination. It was nursed through its successful tests by a corps of official nurses. The story of the Browning gun is not pleasant for me to relate. Every young officer at our training-camps is given to understand that none of the Lewis guns will be sent to France."

An interesting contrast between army and navy methods was supplied by President Louis F. Stoddard, of the Marlin-Rockwell Company, gunmakers. Mr. Stoddard told the committee that on February 1 he was sent for by Admiral Earle, head of the Navy Ordnance Bureau, and asked how soon his company could begin producing machine guns. To quote this witness:


U.S.
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FOR THE BOYS "OVER THERE"
DON'T WORRY SO MUCH ABOUT HOW I GOT IN- BUT COME HELP ME TO GET OUT!
INVESTIGATING COMM. HOUSE
SENATE
DELAY
DONNELL

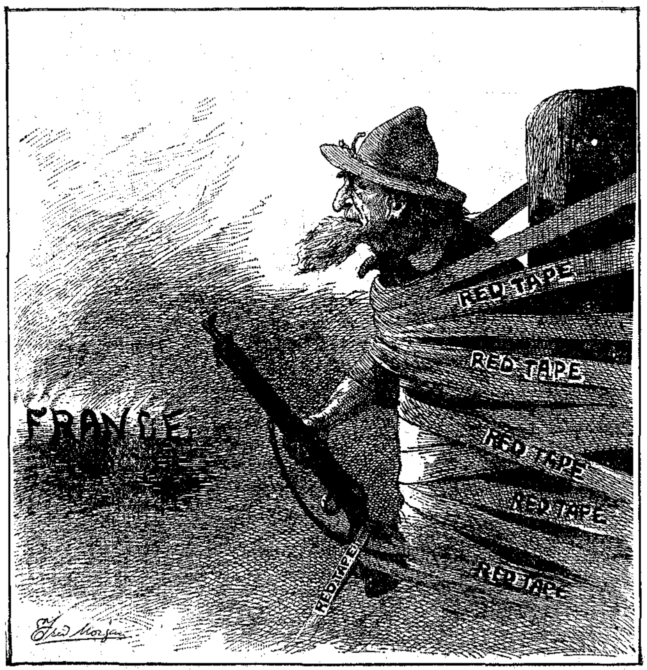
PUT YOUR SHOULDERS TO THE WHEEL.

—Donnell in the St. Louis *Globe-Democrat.*

> "I told Admiral Earle we could begin production in from sixty to ninety days. He said: 'I have no money; I do not know how many I will need, but will you go ahead?' I said: 'Certainly we will go ahead, without regard to that.' The record shows—I looked it up yesterday afternoon—that we immediately bought supplies for the manufacture of guns, without any relation to an order, or anything else."

Mr. Stoddard then went to the Army Ordnance Bureau, with this result:

> "I told Colonel Rice [of the machine-gun department] the Marlin-Rockwell Company had already begun to manufacture the tools for the American caliber, and he turned around and said, 'What did you do that for?' I said, 'Because we thought it was our duty to get ready.' He said, 'Who is going to pay for it?' I said, 'The Marlin-Rockwell Company.' 'Well,' he said, 'we are not interested.'"



CUT THE RED TAPE.

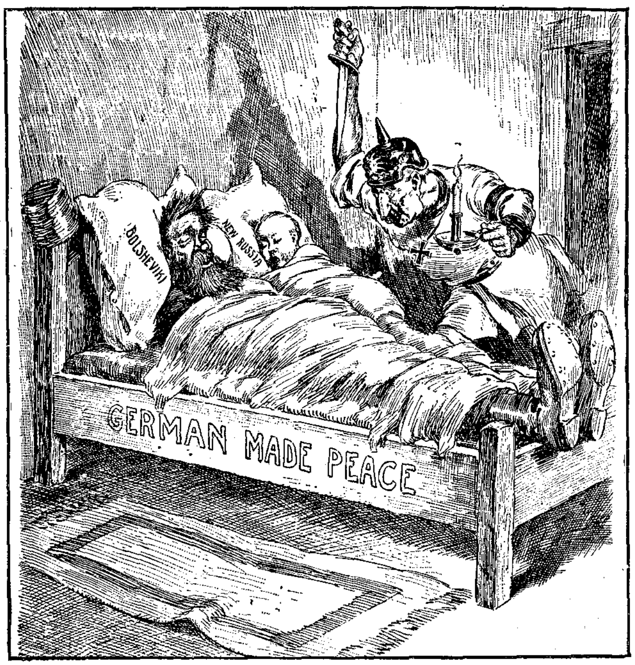
—Morgan in the Philadelphia *Inquirer.*

"Probably if Colonel Rice, instead of being snugly ensconced in a staff job at Washington, had been getting ready to go over the top with a company or regiment lacking machine-gun support he would have been interested," remarks the Chicago *Tribune.* Altogether, thinks the New York *Evening Mail*, the facts disclosed before Senator Chamberlain's committee form "a terrific indictment of neglect and unpreparedness." And in the New York *Times*, a paper usually friendly to the Administration, we read:

> "It is hard for subordinates bred up in precedent to forget what they have learned and practised. Red tape is routine, and sometimes it is evasion of responsibility. Seldom can an old dog be taught new tricks. There are mastiffs in the departments that fetch and carry the livelong day in the same old way.
>
> "Gen. Leonard Wood cut red tape with shining shears when he bought 20,000 overalls for his men at Fort Funston, who had no togs to work in because none had been supplied by the Quartermaster-General. That colonel commanding at Fort Ethan Allen who seized several thousand pairs of blankets at a Winooski woolen-mill working on a Government contract and carted them out to the reservation was another full-sized man who stood in the breach and accepted responsibility.
>
> "Preparedness is impossible with reactionaries on guard. Eliminate them if they can't be cured."

The lesson of the inquiry, according to the Kansas City *Star*—of which Colonel Roosevelt is a contributing editor—is that "Baker must go." We read:

> "*The Star* does not see how it is possible for the head of the War Department to escape responsibility for this demonstrated inefficiency on the part of his subordinates.
>
> "An experienced executive would have kept tab on things.



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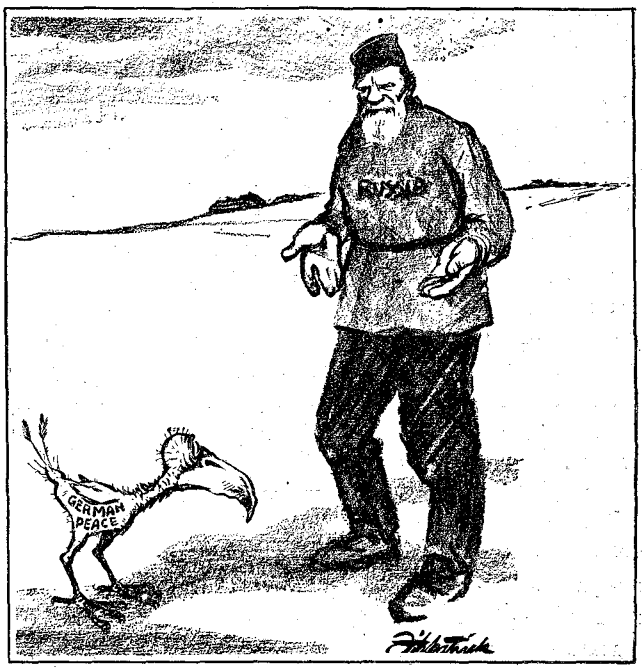
PRUSSIAN HOSPITALITY.

—Macauley for the Butterfield Syndicate.



LIKE EVERYTHING ONE GETS FOR NOTHING.

—Fitzpatrick in the St. Louis *Post-Dispatch*.

BOLSHEVICTIMS.

He would have found out early what departments were falling short, where the delays were occurring, and where new men were required. It has been one of the criticisms of Secretary Baker by those who have worked with him that he has not this faculty to keep things moving. He has accepted general statements in the place of calling for concrete results. His methods have been lax where precision was called for; soft, where driving force was needed.

"The head of the War Department at a time like this ought to be one of the country's biggest executives, chosen for his ability to handle a big job, not for his views on the tariff. He ought to be a man of the type, say, of Davison, who is now handling the Red Cross, or of Schwab, or Gary—a man who will put into this vital work for the Government the vast energy and initiative that have built up such institutions as J. P. Morgan & Co., Bethlehem, United States Steel.

"Perhaps President Wilson could find a place for Mr. Baker in some other sphere of the Government's activities, if he values his counsel. But a real executive is needed to manage the War Department if we are to win the war in the shortest possible time and with the least possible loss of men."

"The country has come to believe that the Secretary of War is far from equal to his job," declares the Topeka *Capital;* and the Milwaukee *Sentinel* complains of the War Secretary's injection into his annual report of a statement hostile to universal military training. Says *The Sentinel:*

"If experience in the War Department has not cured Mr. Baker of his pacifism, the War Department should be cured of Mr. Baker."

Mr. Baker, as the Philadelphia *Inquirer* sees it, is "the most conspicuous of the Cabinet failures"; and the Boston *Transcript* believes that "national sentiment from coast to coast is crystallizing against the blight upon the Army that centers in the War Department and can be summed up in the one word—Bakerism."

Other editors, however, remind us that the delay in the War Department was for the purpose of securing better guns, and recall the testimony of experts that the Browning machine gun is superior to the Lewis, and that the bullets from a Springfield rifle will bring down three ranks of charging Germans, while the Enfield bullets bring down one. Said Mr. Hanson, of the Colt-Patent Arms Company:

"The Germans have the superiority over the French and British in rifles and rifle-ammunition, but the Americans have the superiority over the Germans."

A dispatch from France states that "the German soldiers' armor will not withstand the hard-hitting American bullet," and the Chicago *Herald* reminds us that there is a profit as well as a debit side to the War Department's record. Says this Chicago paper:

"The evidence shows that, after all, when the American soldiers do go to the front they will have a higher-powered cartridge and a better rifle than the British have had manufactured in this country—and that means the advantage of range. And the War Department officials are strong in their assertion that the Browning machine gun will be also a superior weapon.

"Senator Chamberlain's statement that General Crozier's information as to the ordnance situation made in secret session caused things to appear much better—in fact, fairly satisfactory—must also be taken into consideration. Presumably this confidential testimony dealt with the question of heavy guns as well as machine guns and rifles. It was, however, regarded as too important to be made public, in view of its probable usefulness to the enemy. And while Senator Chamberlain's statement must for the present be taken on faith, his reputation is such that assurance from him carries natural weight with the public."

Most of the deficiencies in our war-preparations revealed by the Senate probe were "unavoidable under the circumstances," affirms the Springfield *Republican*, which adds that "in the main the progress has been far beyond what reasonable expectation could have looked for." And the New York *World*, exhorting us to avoid hysteria, goes on to say:

"What has happened in Washington is that Congress has suddenly discovered that we are engaged in a great war, and that war is not quite so simple or placid as peace. When the comparatively modest Ordnance Department of the United States Army has to be expanded almost overnight to German proportions, there is confusion of counsel and delay in reaching a condition of 100 per cent. efficiency. When the Commissary Department of the little regular Army is forced to become the greatest industrial and mercantile establishment in the country, greater than the steel trust or Standard Oil, mistakes are made in adjusting it to its new demands and it fails at the outset to function properly.

"The blunders of delay are no greater perhaps than those of haste, and blunders there are bound to be. . . . . .

"Congressional investigations are instituted for the purpose of disclosing what has been done badly, not what has been done well, and the country is now getting a glimpse of the seamy side of a wonderful achievement. It is just as well that it should, provided the American people keep their heads and refuse to allow every recorded mistake to shake their nerves."

THE GOVERNMENT FORCED TO TAKE THE RAILROADS

A "GREAT NATIONAL NECESSITY dictated the action, and I was therefore not at liberty to abstain from it," says the President in his statement telling why he had to take control of the railroads and other systems of transportation, with Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo as Director-General. The President praises highly the Railroads' War Board, which has been cooperating with the Government since its formation five days after our declaration of a state of war with Germany, but points out that there were "differences that they could neither escape nor neutralize." In mere fairness to some roads, which have suffered through dislocation of earnings, full authority of the Government is substituted and the Government will "thereby gain an immense increase of efficiency in the conduct of the war and of the innumerable activities upon which its successful conduct depends." In the heart of the war-traffic congestion district the Pittsburg *Gazette Times* says the President has effected, so far as the common carriers are concerned, "substitution of military for civil law"; adds that the designation of the Secretary of the Treasury as Director-General is an "admission that the financing of transportation companies is the big problem of the business," and warns that "Congress must be careful to safeguard all private rights which do not temporarily stand in the way of imperative public interests." Such governmental control, if it does relieve the roads, thinks the Chicago *Herald*, "will have certain advantages over the semi-governmental control that regulates income drastically but permits the outgo to flow unchecked," and the New York *Times* welcomes the President's decision because it puts an end to "a period of uncertainty and disquieting rumors by which quite enough harm has been done." The St. Louis *Globe-Democrat* commends the President's "wisdom and fairness" in adopting a radical measure without precedent here, but justified by "an emergency involving our self-preservation." As a war-measure the Chicago *Tribune* considers the President's action "most expedient," and the Minneapolis *Tribune* says it will convey to the Kaiser "a fuller realization that we mean business." The railroads become a part of the war-resources, remarks the Washington *Star*, for troops and supplies will be moved more speedily and the people will be better furnished with fuel and food.

With loyal cooperation of capital and labor, employment of present personnel, and consideration for property interests, the New York *Sun* believes this "most stupendous experiment" can be effected with a "minimum of financial disturbance." Conspicuous economies in management, possible as a result of unification, are foreseen by the New York *Evening Sun*, the New Orleans *Times-Picayune*, and other papers, and we read in a Washington dispatch to the New York *Globe* that one of the first acts of the Government in operation of the roads will be to "reduce large salaries now paid to the railway executives and increase in some measure the wages of the railway workers." Securities issued by the Government will bear interest not less than 4 per cent. and will be made under joint authority of the Director-General and the Interstate Commerce Commission.

Of more immediate concern to many observers is the effect government control will have on the business of war and of home-supplies in war-days. This "most revolutionary step ever taken in the history of the railroads," which is in close accord with the precedent established by the British Government in August, 1914, the Springfield *Republican* tells us, should be beneficially felt in various industries at an early day, "especially in the transportation of coal," and if the Government makes good in this enterprise the prosecution of the war "will be much facilitated." The Providence *Journal* says:

> "Transportation on the sea has already been commandeered. Government control of land transportation, in the same way, assures a prompt reconciliation of the many difficulties that have harassed operation, and a maximum of public service organized for the prosecution of the war and the national defense."

It is testimony to the changes worked in the national spirit, remarks the Kansas City *Star*, that such a revolutionary movement is carried out with little opposition and it shows the American people are "solidly behind any measure necessary to help win the war." This journal notes also that under the Government's direction the roads will still be run by trained men, with the added advantage of being worked as a single system, and a similar idea is exprest by the Philadelphia *Public Ledger* and many other papers. The stockholders still retain their interest and their incomes, on which point the Topeka *Capital* says:

> "There is nothing hostile to railroad stockholders in the policy announced, but, on the contrary, the President has chosen what is among several plans discust as to earnings the most liberal of all—the guaranty of dividends on the basis of the three years ending last June. This assures railroad-owners returns during the remainder of the war in excess of the average for any former period of years."

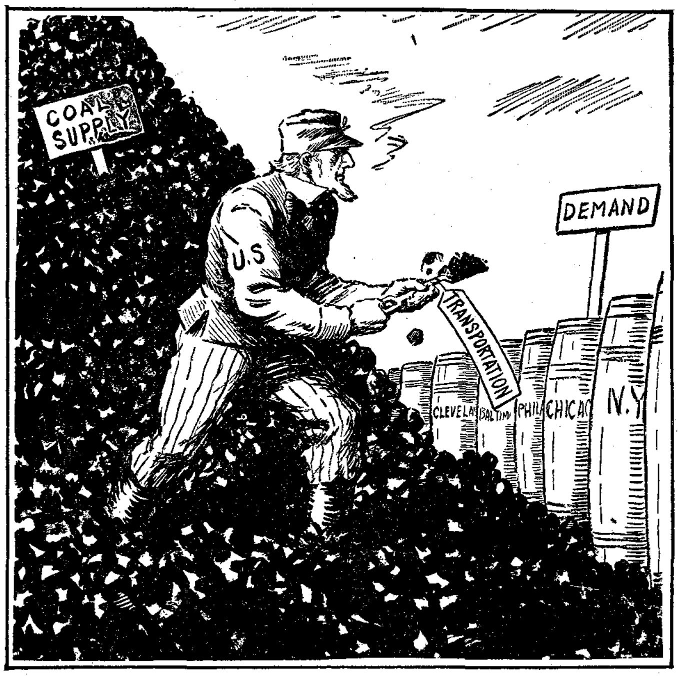
To some journals, among them the Emporia *Gazette*, government ownership looms sharply in view, for while the control of the railroads is proclaimed for the period of the war, says the New York *Globe*, "no power of prophecy is needed to foresee that the railroads will never be returned to private management," and this daily believes the great change effected is "almost certain to be for all time." The New York *American* regrets that Secretary McAdoo is put in charge of the railroads "on a mere temporary possession," because "public ownership of public utilities is a sound democratic principle," and—

> "The railroads can never be got as cheaply again. The proposition of the Government as it now stands seems to be nothing more than to tide the railroads over a period which is difficult, if not disastrous, to them, and after they have been tided over this period by the helping hand of the Government to return them to private hands to be mismanaged in the future as they have been mismanaged in the past."

But the Springfield *Republican* considers that it is an "academic question" just now to ask whether the roads will ever be returned to their private owners, and adds that government ownership "will not necessarily follow as the conclusion of the action that has been taken." Similarly the Baltimore *Sun* observes that success of government ownership during a war like this "will by no means prove that government ownership would be desirable in normal times. When the question of government ownership becomes an issue in our politics, it will have to be fought out on its own merits." This experiment to meet war-emergencies, according to the Louisville *Courier-Journal*, "can not succeed without its serving as an object-lesson in government ownership; it can not fail without national disaster." Yet this journal thinks "there is no ground for anticipating any radical changes in the conduct of railroads beyond their temporary unification to meet an emergency." Says the Los Angeles *Times:*

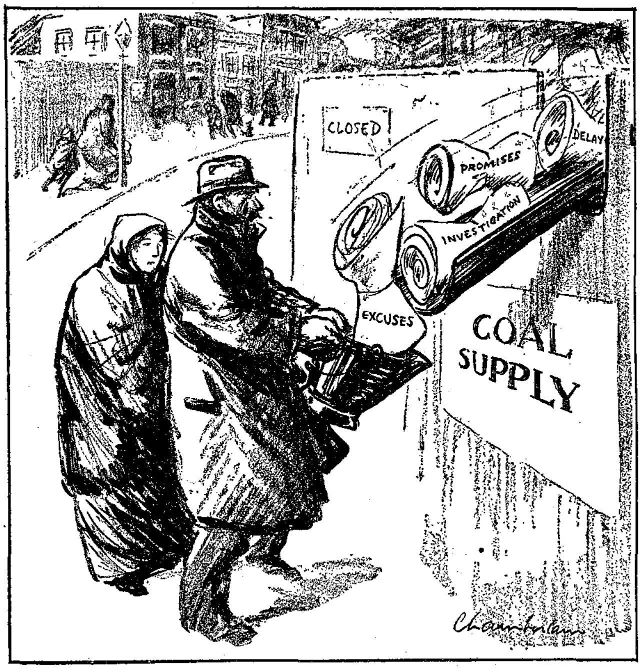
> "What the situation really demands is not government ownership nor government dictatorship, but repeal of the iniquitous antipooling law and such control as will enable the Railroads' War Board to issue mandatory orders from the public treasury of the capital now so sorely needed by the railroads to provide the rolling-stock with which to meet their advancing traffic demands. The Government should also release its grip on the equipment factories for a sufficient time to allow them to turn out the rolling-stock for which the railroads have paid, or, failing that, should inject more system into its method of handling shipments abroad."

If the railroads had been granted the rights and powers vested in the Director-General, the Richmond *Times-Dispatch* thinks, Federal control "might not have been necessary." But the



THE INADEQUATE SHOVEL.

—Harding in the Brooklyn *Eagle*.



OUR COAL SUBSTITUTE.

—Chamberlain in the Philadelphia *Evening Telegraph*.

ONE REASON WHY THE GOVERNMENT MUST RUN THE ROADS

President's action, according to the Cleveland *Press*, is "plainly a necessity," and it goes on to say that in peace times the railroads have been "mismanaged, looted, 'promoted' to death, and their efficient operation in war-times under the old managements was an impossibility," and now—

> "Uncle Sam commandeers. How can he hesitate to do likewise in the matter of production of coal, oil, lumber, copper, steel, and other war-necessaries, without the prompt and heavy production and delivery of which his war-business fails?"

Commandeering the railroads is an act of war, observes the Boston *Transcript*, that "for a time silences all other laws, national and State." Public consciousness of the fact will justify and support further measures and "will justify the conscription of labor for the operation of the transportation system if that proves to be necessary." The Dallas *News* analyzes Mr. McAdoo's function as—

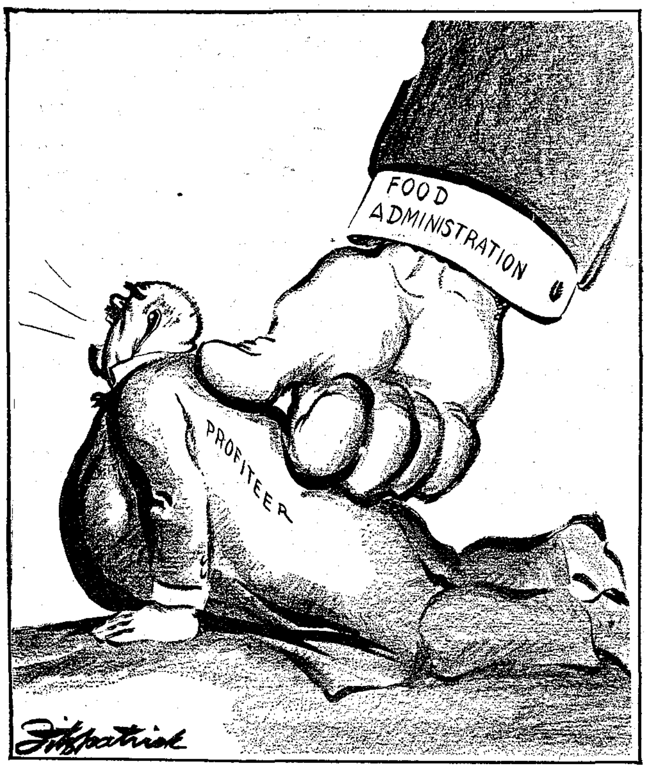
> "Chiefly to stand between the men who operate the railroads and those who have regulated them. He is, indeed, to regulate the regulators. Freedom is conferred on the operators of the railroads, restraint is imposed on those who have heretofore restrained the operators. That, in addition to determining what financial assistance the railroads will need and to aid them in getting it, seems the function of Mr. McAdoo. That he will prove equal to the task will not be questioned by many men. His achievements make a guaranty."

Mr. McAdoo's practical experience, says President Wilson, "peculiarly fits him for the service," and his authority as Secretary of the Treasury "will enable him to coordinate, as no other man could, the many financial interests which will be involved, and which might, unless systematically directed, suffer very embarrassing entanglements." The President points out, also, that this Government is the only great Government now engaged in war that has not assumed control of this sort and adds that "investors in railway securities may rest assured their rights and interests will be as scrupulously looked after by the Government as they could be by the directors of the several railway systems."

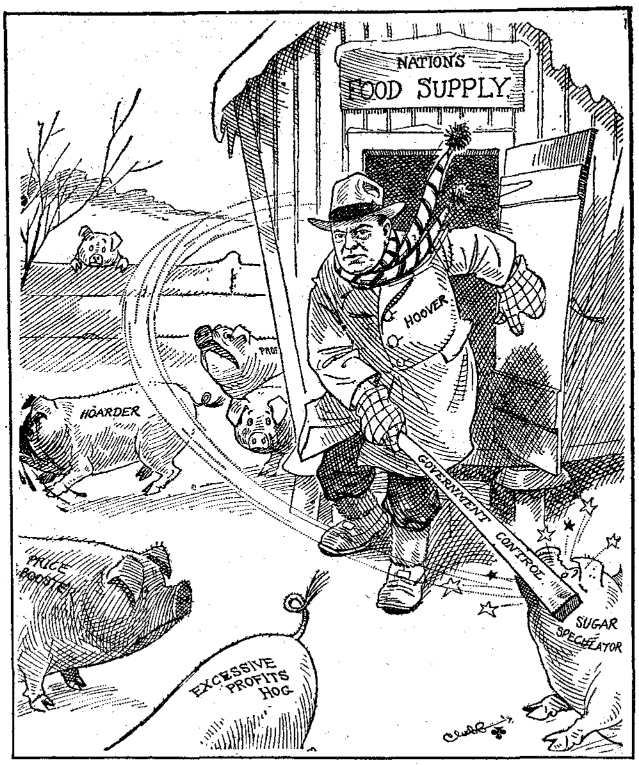
Press dispatches report that the railroad managers are delighted with the appointment of Secretary McAdoo to control their properties during the war-period. They made this declaration on the theory that handicaps now existing in management can not be worse under the new régime, for, as one manager said, "it is not a case of jumping from the frying-pan into the fire, but from the fire into the frying-pan." The New York *Sun* quotes President Underwood, of the Erie Railroad, as saying that the action of the Administration is "the biggest and finest thing that has ever happened to our railroads." While hesitating to discuss the plan prematurely, he added that "on the basis of the general announcement I would say instantly that it will be a grand thing for the country as a war-time measure, a grand thing for the railroads themselves, and a grand solution of the labor problem." To President Truesdale, of the Lackawanna, the plan "seems to be perfectly reasonable and fair," and "will make for efficient operation." President E. E. Loomis, of the Lehigh Valley, thinks "railroad men will be pleased by the President's selection of Secretary McAdoo as Director-General," and like commendation of Secretary McAdoo is exprest by Mr. Louis H. Hill, president of the Great Northern, who says in a St. Paul dispatch to the New York *Tribune* that he is "one of the best men the President could have selected." In various other railroad centers of the country press reports are of similar tenor on his appointment, tho the Denver *Rocky Mountain News* asks: "Was Mr. McAdoo the only available citizen in the whole United States to take over the new job? In this matter of railroad transfer we have the President at his best and his narrowest."

Among the journals that note with satisfaction the President's reassuring words to stockholders and bondholders are the Atlanta *Constitution*, Washington *Herald*, and the San Francisco *Chronicle*, which says the "mere promise of justice instantaneously restored the credit of the railroads." But in cynical contrast Mr. Victor Berger, editor of the Socialist Milwaukee *Leader*, observes:

> "Only recently one of the railroad presidents said that it would require an investment of ten billion dollars to put the railroads into good running order. This sum they could not get of course, and they were facing a crisis. Now comes Woodrow Wilson and promises not only to equip the roads for them, but also to guarantee them a new income equal to the average profits made during the last three years—the largest profits ever known to them—profits due to the war-traffic and profits made because the railroads did not spend any money for extension or equipment. I believe that if we could combine and add up the plunder and booty of the capitalists and knights of old Rome for all the years of the existence of that empire, the combined total would not nearly reach the amount of what our railroads are going to make with one fell swoop under the proclamation of President Woodrow Wilson. No wonder that the mere announcement of Wilson's measure was received in Wall Street with a whoop."



THAT ANTI-HOOVER HOWL.
—Fitzpatrick in the St. Louis *Post-Dispatch*.



THE SQUEALERS.
—Clubb in the Rochester *Herald*.

SPEAKING OF PROFITLESS DAYS.

THE TRUTH AT THE BOTTOM OF THE SUGAR-BARREL

"THE SUGAR ISSUE IN A NUTSHELL" is that "Herbert Hoover has fought to keep down the price of sugar to the public and has succeeded"; while "Claus Spreckels has fought to make money" and "has not succeeded, hence his attempt to discredit the Food Administrator." That is, at any rate, the impression remaining in the mind of the editor of the Philadelphia *Inquirer*, after reading the charges and counter-charges made before the Senate Committee investigating the sugar situation, which we presented to our readers last week. Other editors call attention to a third leading figure in the sugar drama, namely Senator James A. Reed, of Missouri, who is chairman of the investigating committee. They recall his long fight against the passage of the Food-Control Bill and his unconcealed enmity toward Mr. Hoover. And with the New York *Globe*, some note a growing suspicion that the Missourian is not searching for the truth which may lie concealed at the bottom of the sugar-barrel, but is "merely satisfying his own grudges and those of some of the food-manufacturers, who resent any interference at any time with their well-established prerogatives." On the other hand, the Spreckels charges convince certain press writers that there is something wrong in the Food Administration as at present constituted. One of the most vigorous of the many newspaper editorials voicing complete confidence in the Federal Food Administrator and more or less complete distrust of his critics and chief inquisitors appears in the Philadelphia *North American*. The Washington inquiry is an "obviously rehearsed attack" on Mr. Hoover, in the view of the Philadelphia newspaper. This editor even hints at German propaganda, for he says that "the attack was so boldly conceived and executed, so baseless and sinister, so ingeniously calculated to inspire public opposition to vital war-measures, that the perpetrators must expect their actions to be subjected to the same vigilant scrutiny that would be directed to the movements of I. W. W. agitators or alien enemies found lurking near a munitions-plant or a navy-yard." The editorial continues:

"Senator Reed, who, as chairman of the committee holding a hearing respecting the fuel and sugar shortage, aided and abetted Spreckels in his assault, is an anti-Administration Democrat. From the beginning he has opposed the control of food-supplies and prices, and has exhibited venomous hostility toward Mr. Hoover. He did not go so far as did his colleague, Senator Stone, and actually vote against empowering the Government to defend American rights against aggression; but his obstruction of projects designed for national defense has given comfort to the enemy, and no doubt has been as politically advantageous among his German constituents in Missouri as has the bolder course of Senator Stone.

"Claus A. Spreckels is a multimillionaire sugar-manufacturer, whose opportunities for making abnormal profits from the sugar needs of the American people evaporated with the establishment of the Federal Food Administration. 'I realize,' says Mr. Hoover, 'that Mr. Spreckels' balance-sheet will not look so good next year as last, for refiners' profits have been regulated. Furthermore, his balance-sheet would have looked better this year if the price of last August had not been reduced and held fast in the face of a partial shortage that promised a fair opportunity for 30-cent sugar and much increased profits.' Mr. Spreckels, altho born in this country, is of German blood—his father was a native of Hanover—and before the United States entered the war his sympathies were with the Kaiser.

"The circumstances obviously do not convict Reed and Spreckels of anti-American purposes; but it is certain that Germans or German-Americans who pursued a like course in Germany would suffer swift suppression. Condemnation of their action, however, does not rest upon surmise, but upon facts."

The North American mentions several of the "loose charges and insinuations against the Food Administration" made by "Spreckels with the coaching and cooperation of Reed." The most harmful of these accusations, we are told, was to the effect that the sugar trust was being favored by the Food Administration and that that corporation "is making excessive profits through the discrimination." Besides the explicit denials made by Mr. Hoover, an expert witness is brought forward by *The North American*, in the person of President Earle, of the Pennsylvania Sugar Refining Company, a competitor and not long ago a vigorous adversary of the sugar trust. He has admitted that his own company has been deprived of large profits by the fixing of prices, but adds that had it not been for such action consumers *might have had to pay as much as $1 a pound for* sugar. He bears testimony to the "loyal unselfish, patient, and enthusiastic devotion to patriotic duty" displayed by Mr. Hoover and his assistant, Mr. Rolph. He knows that "Mr. Rolph has voluntarily subjected his company to enormous losses of what could be gained in order that the people could get sugar cheaper and the armies properly supplied." Mr. Earle is quoted as saying further:

> "Mr. Hoover and Mr. Rolph have kept the refiners' price at 8.18 cents, and they have accomplished it by voluntary agreement—and the last man to agree was Mr. Spreckels. . . . . . .
>
> "While I have not always agreed with Messrs. Rolph and Hoover, I have never seen such untiring, self-sacrificing, patriotic devotion as they are constantly displaying. I believe that they will soon reach their goal of a reasonable supply of sugar at less than reasonable prices, if they are not thus uselessly diverted from more than exacting duties."

The North American points out that food-troubles most easily awaken public suspicion and contention, saying:

> "In Russia, in Italy, in England, and in France the first and most frequent point of attack by pro-German and antiwar elements has always been the food administration. So readily may adverse sentiment be incited that a national food controller can not hold office more than a few months.
>
> "Exactly the same methods and results may be expected here. If the teamwork of Reed and Spreckels has not been inspired by pro-German sympathy, it is at least palpable that no other *action could more effectually serve the interests of Kaiserism* than this studied effort to create distrust of the Food Administration. Certainly there has been nothing since the war began that had a stronger tendency to weaken public faith in the Government.
>
> "If maneuvers of this nature are suffered to continue, and if the people permit themselves to be swayed by distorted and interested testimony, the advantage to Germany and the hurt to the United States will be immeasurable.
>
> "The Food Administration has been in power only a few weeks —hardly long enough to start the vast machinery of regulation —yet already it has proved its honesty, demonstrated its efficiency, and accomplished tremendous results in stabilizing prices and protecting the consumer. We urge for it loyal and intelligent support by the public."

This defense of the Administration's food-control policy comes from a progressive Republican newspaper, which has been foremost among the critics of the Wilsonian ways and means. So stanch a supporter of the Administration as the New York *World* (Dem.) not unnaturally defends Mr. Hoover with equal vigor. When Senator Reed's committee was given the task of investigating the Food Administration, the Senate, according to *The World*, "made sure that the inquest would be unfriendly." It recalls how Senator Reed refused to allow the Food Administrator to take the stand immediately after the sensational charges had been made against him, and how he refused to put on record a written statement given in by Mr. Hoover. This statement was given to the public only by the intervention of President Wilson. To find "an obstructionist Senator at the head of an obstructionist committee pretending to investigate an important public officer dealing with vital affairs and yet denying him an opportunity to meet his accusers" seems to *The World* to be trickery, if it is not treachery. And it adds that the Committee on Manufactures also includes a fair representation of the "wilful twelve" denounced by President Wilson and "some fine specimens of standpat Republicanism," thus containing an alliance of "pacifism and Old Guardism." The New York *Herald* (Ind.) recalls some of Senator Reed's earlier utterances, which "bore evidence of personal malice against Mr. Hoover," nor does it forget "that other of his acts aroused in the country a suspicion that the junior Senator from Missouri would not be averse to seeing somebody throw a monkey-wrench in the Administration's war-machinery." Distrust of Senator Reed and criticism of his methods of conducting the investigation are voiced in somewhat more guarded tones by other important journals, such as the New York *Sun* (Rep.) and *Evening Post* (Ind.), Newark *News* (Ind.), Baltimore *American* (Rep.), Chicago *Herald* (Ind.), and St. Louis *Globe-Democrat* (Rep.). The Detroit *Journal* (Ind.) observes the note of hostility in the questionings of the Committee on Manufactures and says that "the partizan section of the press is feeling its way toward whacking the President's head over the shoulder of Mr. Hoover." The Cincinnati *Times-Star*, owned by the brother of a Republican ex-President, is impatient with these "accusations of favoritism and the petty jealousies of refiners which have been brought out in Washington," and it concludes that the country has a faith in Mr. Hoover "that will not be readily shaken by a discussion among corporations as to their comparative profits." Another Republican paper, the Des Moines *Register*, has learned from experience that a 5 or 10 per cent. shortage in a commodity generally increases the price 50 to 100 per cent. It does not doubt, therefore, "that if it were not for the Food Administration sugar would be selling to-day for thirty cents a pound instead of nine cents." *The Register* is further convinced that—

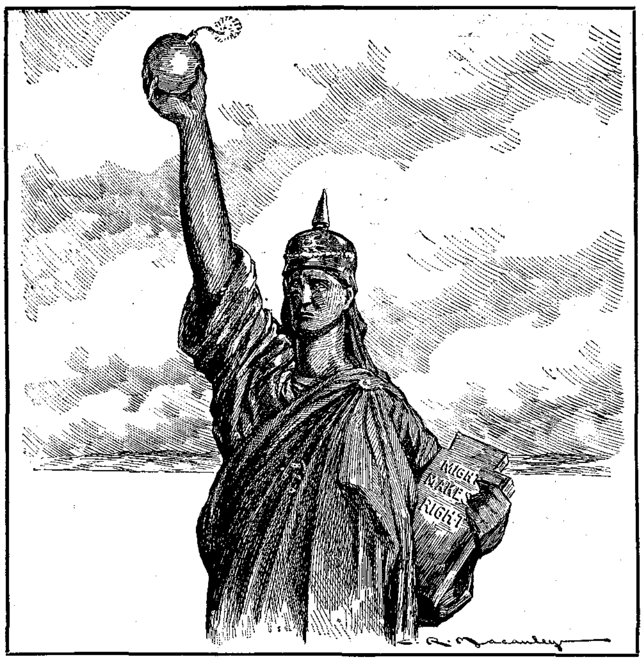
> "If any criticism of Mr. Hoover's department is to prove effective, it must come without the taint of self-interest, and of all the business groups in the country there is none which can make a complaint with poorer grace than the sugar men. They have not only bulled the market for all it was worth, but have manipulated the sugar-supply for speculative purposes."

But there are those who have been strongly imprest by the circumstantial charges made by Mr. Spreckels. The Brooklyn *Eagle* thinks it well that the Senate Committee should seek to get to the bottom of facts in this matter. It points out that Mr. Hoover has had no experience in the sugar business and that it is possible that selfish interests managed to use his powers for their own benefit without any blame attaching to the Administrator himself. The Seattle *Times* is convinced that whoever was to blame, there has been a lack of proper cooperation between the different refining companies and the Food Administration. The closing down of American refineries while raw sugar was actually passing through the leading American port and while the district tributary to both the port and those refineries was suffering from a sugar shortage seems amazing to the Seattle paper, and it comes to the conclusion that "the circumstances do not point to a very cordial working arrangement between Hoover's department and the sugar interests and the results do not bespeak any great degree of efficiency in the handling of this particular food problem." Making all allowances for the fact that Mr. Spreckels is an interested witness, it still appears to the Albany *Times-Union* as if the administration of Mr. Hoover is "sadly lacking in the work of taking care of the consuming public." The fact that worries the Albany editor is stated in these words:

> "The public never had much confidence in that branch of Mr. Hoover's work after it learned that the public interest, so far as sugar was concerned, had been placed in the hands of officials of the sugar trust. They may be straightforward business men, but human nature is hardly equal to such a strain."

Senator Reed, according to the Washington correspondents, objects to the Food Administration's action in setting aside the law of supply and demand. He sees combinations of Government and individuals tending toward socialism and is reported by a New York *World* correspondent as saying that on the principle made use of by Mr. Hoover prices might be fixt on every other commodity. He further remarked: "We spent years and years enacting antitrust legislation, and then all the sugar people meet and fix a price, and they are absolutely under one control more than they ever were under a trust."

The statement sent out by the Food Administrator through



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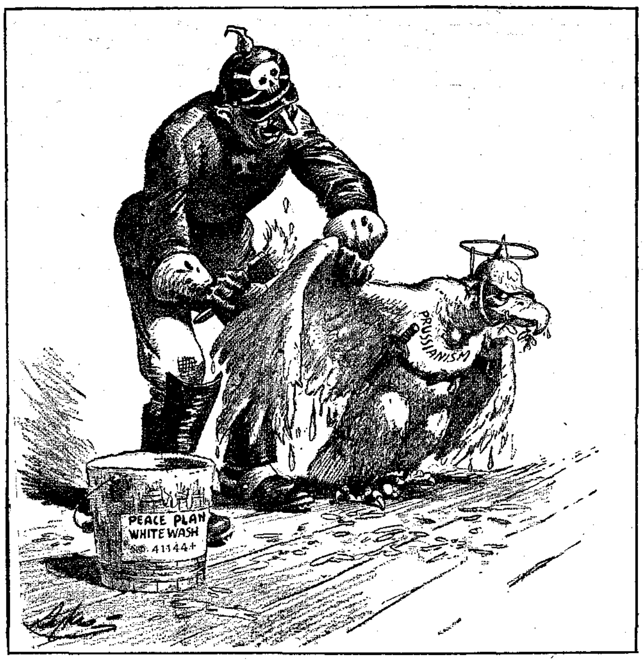
THE MEANING OF A GERMAN-MADE PEACE.

—Macauley for the Butterfield Syndicate.


PRUSSIANISM
PEACE PLAN WHITE WASH NO. 41144+

"VY, ALMOST CAN I BELIEF IT MYSELF!"

—Sykes in the Philadelphia *Evening Ledger*.

IMPRESSIONS OF A POTSDAM PEACE.

the Committee on Public Information, at the request of the President, contained a complete explanation of the sugar shortage and a justification of the acts of the Food Administrator in connection with that shortage. It was pointed out that before the war our allies produced much of their own sugar and imported most of the rest from Germany and Austria; that is, before the war they took only some 300,000 tons a year from our hemisphere, whereas this year they have taken 1,400,000. That, says Mr. Hoover, "is the cause of the sugar shortage and nothing else." Besides this, the East-Indian sugar is not available because there is not the shipping to bring it to this country and Europe. The consumption of sugar in England has been reduced to 24 pounds a year per person, and in France to 14 pounds, as compared with an American consumption of 55 pounds. Next year there will be an even greater shortage unless the Allies go to Java for supplies, which would require the use of ships in which American troops would otherwise be transported to France. This means that Americans must reduce their own consumption of sugar. For, "if we in our greed and gluttony force the Allies either to reduce their ration or to go to remote markets after sugar we will have done tremendous damage to our abilities to win the war." Mr. Hoover described the steps taken by the Food Administration which have resulted in the keeping of sugar at a retail price of from eight and one-half to nine and one-half cents, when twenty cents might otherwise have been the price. He does not contend that these acts could not have been more efficient. But—

> "They are as efficient as they could be with the feeble weapon of voluntary agreement that we have been able to wield. Had the right not been stricken out of the Food Bill for us to purchase sugar directly for the Government, both the price and the distribution could have been handled more efficiently."

There has been an examination of the sugar-refining business, and an organization for next year has been formed, consisting of an international committee on distribution and a refiners' committee. A reduction of one cent per pound in the retail price of granulated sugar is expected, and, we are told—

> "There is now an elimination of speculation and extortionate profits, and, in the refining alone, the American people will save over $25,000,000 of the refining charges last year. A part of these savings goes to the Cuban, Hawaiian, Porto-Rican, and Louisianian producer, and part to the consumer."

CENTRAL POWERS ANXIOUS TO QUIT

WHEN ARISTOCRATIC AUSTRIA hobnobs with the unkempt Bolsheviki and adopts their cry for "no annexations and no indemnities," some American observers hail it as the gasp that shows the wrestler is nearing the end of his strength. And at the same moment the Kaiser makes it clear in a speech to his troops that if the Allies refuse him peace, it will make him quite irritable. "If the enemy does not want peace," he shouted, "then we must bring peace to the world by battering in with the iron fist and shining sword the doors of those who will not have peace." In other words, he will continue the same tactics that have thus far killed and maimed more of his own people than of any other. Petrograd dispatches inform us that on Christmas day Count Czernin, the Austro-Hungarian Foreign Minister, told the peace conference at Brest-Litovsk that the Central Powers are solemnly resolved to terminate the war on conditions equally just to all the belligerents. The principles uttered by the Russian delegates could be the basis of such a peace, but could be realized only if all the belligerents agreed to the terms of the Russian proposals, which condemn the continuation of the war purely for aims of conquest. We read further that it is not the intention of the Central Powers to deprive of political independence those nations which have lost it during the war. The independence, however, of nationalities previously subject to this or that country can not be solved internationally, but must be solved constitutionally by each government and its peoples. The special fund suggested by Russia to enable each belligerent to pay the expense of its subjects made war-prisoners and to pay damages to civil subjects in invaded territory can be discust only in case other belligerents join in peace negotiations before a certain time. Germany insists upon the return of her colonies and agrees with the Russian demand for the immediate evacuation of territories occupied by an adversary. Finally, the Central Powers agree with the Russian delegates in the matter of adjusting economic relations in the interests of all concerned as "one of the most important conditions for bringing about friendly relations between the Powers now engaged in war."

In sharp contrast to the proposals of the Central Powers editorial observers note Mr. Lloyd George's war-aim speech in the House of Commons, in which he said the Allies demand victory as an essential condition "not because it satisfies some low, vindictive sense in human nature, because you want merely to punish, but it is because we realize that victory is the only thing that will give reality to peace terms." A league of nations in which Germany is represented by the military caste, he said further, "would be a hollow farce, but the people of Germany must be there, and that is why victory in itself is more important than mere terms." The road has been made harder and longer, observes the Chicago *Tribune*, but victory is required by the cause against Germany, "because it alone will present conditions upon which satisfactory terms can be obtained unless the German spirit is transformed." Such terms can not be obtained now, according to *The Tribune*, nor would anything be changed by an agreement reached now, and the New York *Journal of Commerce* says that Lloyd George's speech was evidently intended as a decisive reply to all peace proposals at this time and as an expression of "a determination to fulfil the promise of ending the war in tragic style, with compensation for all it cost and assurance of no repetition of such a calamity." Mr. Lloyd George recalled his previous outline of war-aims in his Glasgow speech, and mentioned some changes necessitated by events. First was the "demand for complete restoration of national territory conquered by Germany and complete reparation for damage done," and we read:

> "Since Russia has entered into separate negotiations, she, of course, must alone be responsible for the terms in respect of her own territories. I am speaking now of Belgium, Roumania, Servia, and other countries which have not entered into separate negotiations. Of course, the fact that Russia entered into separate negotiations disposes of all questions about Constantinople.
>
> "My second point had reference to Mesopotamia and the German colonies. Since then we have conquered the most important part of Palestine and the whole of East Africa.
>
> "I said at Glasgow that what was to happen in Mesopotamia must be left to the peace congress when it met, and then I went on to say that whatever happened it would not be restored to the blasting tyranny of the Turks. The same applies to Armenia.
>
> "Then there is the question of the German colonies. That, I said, was a matter that could safely be left to a great international peace congress, which would, no doubt, have regard to the wishes of the native races. I don't think that is challenged by any honorable gentleman. Does any one say that we ought to compel these people to place themselves again under the tyranny of German rule? The future of these colonies should be settled upon the principle of respecting the desire of the people themselves. That is what we laid down then, and that is what we stand by now."

The Premier went on to say that the Allies have conquered no country where the population belonged to the governing race, and "have not annexed a single yard of territory where there is German population."

The agreement of Washington with Lloyd George appears in Secretary Baker's statement in his weekly review of the military situation that German peace talk "should not for a moment induce us to slacken our preparation for war," and that—

> "It is only necessary for us to recall that during the Christmas season of last year the Germans put forth very similar peace rumors.
>
> "In considering the general military situation in its true light it must be understood that the Germans realize that within a short time our armies will form the principal body of fresh strategical reserves remaining available for action on the battlefields of Europe. Thus, no matter what superiority in men and guns the enemy may for the time being be able to bring to bear in the West, and even admitting an eventual modification of the Allied line in his favor, nevertheless he knows that in so far as it is humanly possible to foresee his effort will inevitably result in merely a local success, which can have no determining influence on the final outcome of the war.
>
> "Our armies constitute the reserves of victory."

TOPICS IN BRIEF

If thirteen States hold out for rum, the nation's drought will never come.—*New York Sun.*

These are indeed dark hours for the world, but let us not forget our most familiar proverb.—*Chicago Daily News.*

Expelled from the old Jerusalem, the Germans are by no means certain of ever reaching the New.—*Anaconda Standard.*

Only in cartoons does the crown stay in position when the monarch has been turned upside down.—*Kansas City Star.*

By the terms of the Bolshevik-German armistice agreement the Russians quit and the Germans do the rest.—*New York World.*

Congress persists in its policy of cruel and unusual punishment toward La Follette by refusing to put him on trial.—*New York Evening Post.*

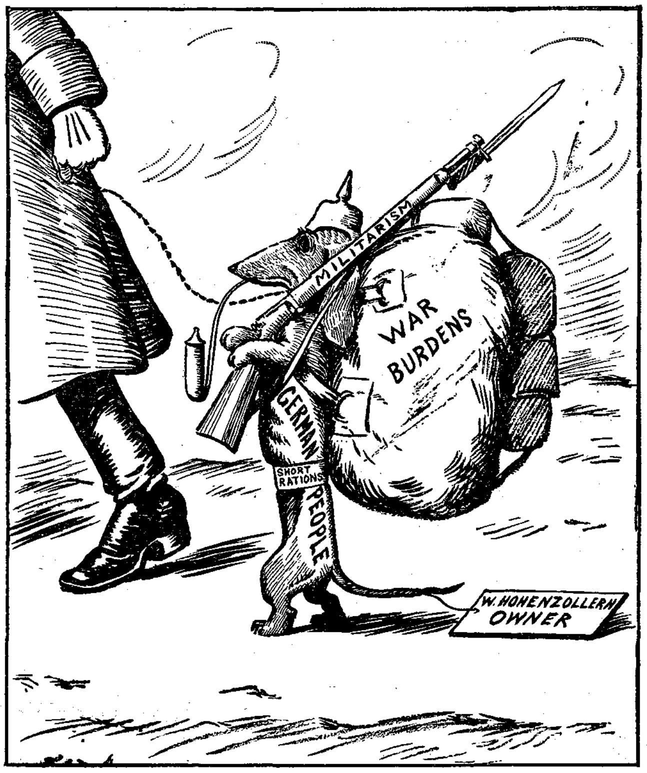
But wouldn't our governmental red tape make fine defensive entanglements if it could be placed about the front-line trenches?—*Chicago Daily News.*

Germany is probably more interested in the fact that our artillery won't be ready until next summer than in General Crozier's explanations of why it won't be.—*Kansas City Star.*

We might imitate Russia, which formed the famous Battalion of Death, and send to the front a regiment of ladies recently acquitted of shooting their husbands.—*Emporia Gazette.*

The ultimate consumer was permitted to make arrangements to dig his own potatoes, but unfortunate circumstances forbid his taking the same course with reference to coal.—*Washington Star.*

Jerusalem, Bagdad, and Mekka—the three holy cities of Islam—are all in the hands of the Allies. This is the Entente's answer to the holy war that Germany sought to foment in the Mohammedan possessions of Great Britain and France.—*St. Louis Post-Dispatch.*



CAN DO EVERYTHING BUT TALK.

—Harding in the Brooklyn *Eagle.*

And it may get so that a patch on your trousers will be regarded as a thrift stamp.—*Dallas News.*

"U"-pirate victims have not died in vain, for theirs is the real call for freedom of the seas.—*Wall Street Journal.*

The only draft-resisters that meet any encouragement out this way are the ones patriotic women are knitting.—*Kansas City Star.*

The coal famine served one purpose, anyhow. It made New York go to bed early.—*New York World.*

Civilization is now looking to the Cossacks.—*Cleveland Plain Dealer.*

One of the redeeming features of the war is that the man who lacks initiative has some chance of getting to the front.—*Emporia Gazette.*

The work of supplying the American Army with machine guns is going ahead rapidly. Some factories are now perparing to make the guns.—*Kansas City Star.*

The Bolsheviki are fighting the Cossacks. The Bolsheviki don't see anything wicked in fighting anybody but the Kaiser.—*Philadelphia North American.*

The eastern Siberians should not be encouraged in their demand for purchase by the United States. We have enough Siberian weather already.—*New York Evening Post.*

The report from the Western front that Hindenburg and Ludendorff look cheerfully upon the prospective offensive indicates that they do not expect to go in with the poor devils who are not expected to come back.—*Dallas News.*

The Army has no machine guns because the ordnance experts have been apart for years on the type to be used, which recalls the man who died of sleeplessness sitting on the edge of his bed with a nightshirt in each hand, but unable to make up his mind which to put on.—*Kansas City Star.*

FOREIGN - COMMENT

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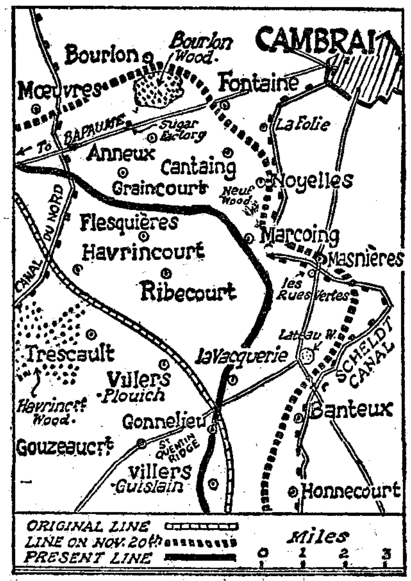
BRITISH REPATRIATING FRENCH CIVILIANS AFTER THREE YEARS OF GERMAN RULE.

This stream of men, women, and children poured back into France when the British push at Cambrai gave an opportunity of escape from German oppression. While the soldiers pushed on to the east, hundreds of civilians hurried west.

SHORT-LIVED VICTORY AT CAMBRAI

OVERCONFIDENCE AND SHORT-SIGHTEDNESS seem to have turned the picturesque "victory of Cambrai" into something very like a bad defeat for the British. The massing of tanks, the sudden swift stroke unheralded by preliminary bombardment, caught the Germans unprepared at a part of the line thinly held. The Hindenburg line wavered and broke and the British had the open country before them. The temptation seems to have been too great, and Sir Julian Byng's troops undertook a forward movement without the necessary supports. Some critics, by no means of the least note, hold that the Cambrai thrust was the "last expiring gasp" of what they term the "now-obsolete tank." We are told that both sides recognize that the tank is antiquated and can not stand up against the field-artillery which the Germans have installed in their front-line trenches. They hold that the British thrust at Cambrai was designed not to break through, but merely to create a diversion which would relieve the pressure on the Italian front, and in this diversion the tanks were to make their final bow upon the stage of war. General Baron von Ardenne tells us what the Germans think of the tanks in the columns of the *Berliner Tageblatt*, where he writes:



THE CAMBRAI FRONTS.

> "The rôle of the tank is as good as played out. Our artillery mows them down. The original terror they inspired has vanished. The enemy lets the overturned or crumpled-up monsters lie where they have dropt crippled for the sake of his own troops. It has also been observed that the occupants of the English tanks are apt to leave their dangerous armored prisons prematurely."

Despite this opinion, there is no doubt that the much-discust tank gained a very considerable victory at Cambrai, which might have been turned into a permanent British success had the military authorities been prepared for it with adequate supports. As it was, both soldiers and civilians, at the front and at home, indulged in such transports of joy that the follow-up was completely neglected. So enthusiastic did the war-correspondents become that we find General Maurice, the official spokesmen of the British War Office, thus warning them:

> "I should like just to speak a word of caution, because owing to the novelty of the method employed and the fact that the battle was a complete surprize to the enemy, our papers were a little bit inclined to lose their heads over it and to talk of a complete break through, the fall of Cambrai, and a great many other good things. Well, of course, in a fight of that kind, which was, as I said, an experiment, no definite objective was fixt, as in the case of the battles in Flanders and at Arras, which I have explained to you so often. We intended to get as far as we could, and that is all about it. I may tell you this, that we have established ourselves a good deal further than Sir Douglas Haig expected, but the operation was in no sense an employment of large masses of troops for a great battle. The whole advance was over in three or four days, and therefore the hopes which have been held out in our press in some cases were never justified at all."

Not only were the hopes never justified, but the German counter-attack turned victory into defeat. We find this frankly admitted by the London *Nation*, which tells us that Hindenburg came within an ace of achieving his object—to break the British line and roll it up. This would have meant a disaster on the Western front to which the Italian reverses would have been a mere skirmish:

> "Nothing could be further from the fact than the idea that the Germans are beaten. The extraordinary success of the counter-attack at first came as a disagreeable surprize to most people in this country; and, strangely enough, it was most surprizing to the soldiers. Nothing of the order of this blow has been dealt by the Germans against the British since the second battle of Ypres; and the struggle has strange points of resemblance to that battle. In both cases the enemy gained a success that was totally unexpected by us, and in both cases they do not seem to have known what to do with it. On the southern part of the salient created by our new positions the first shock of the Germans, coming upon troops totally unprepared

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> to meet it, drove a gap in our lines that even extended to Gouzeaucourt and the original line. It was here that some of the troops were cut off and went to form the nucleus of that imposing figure which the Germans now claim. But they could not develop their gains. The 'encircling movement' failed to encircle, and the reason is that the other arm of the thrust failed almost completely. The German plan was to combine with this southern blow a stroke through Mœuvres. The two assaults should have converged toward Havrincourt, and orders have been found showing Havrincourt, and even more distant places, as the destined objectives of various units. But the northern attack met with a more skilful resistance. Tho the positions were hastily improvised, they had been chosen with considerable foresight, and the German defeat was more complete. Some of the German storming troops did, it is true, get through to the Bapaume-Cambrai road. But they were driven back promptly. A subsidiary movement, which was directed to the cutting off of the local salient about Bourlon Wood, came to nothing.

Von der Front
nach Cambrai
Zum Bahnhof
Orts-Kommandantur

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THE BRITISH "DROP IN" AT MARCOING.

Their visit was a fleeting one, as the village is now back in German hands.

> "The result of the counter-attack has been to restore a narrow fringe from the east of Marcoing southward to the Germans. Their main purpose failed, and failed as terribly as any of the forlorn attempts they have made to breach the lines of the Western front."

Adding up the profit and loss account, it would seem that the losses on both sides have balanced pretty evenly so far as captures are concerned. The Germans claim officially "more than 9,000 prisoners, 148 big guns, and 716 machine guns," while the British have more prisoners but less guns—11,551 prisoners, 40 big guns, and 303 machine guns.

The *Frankfurter Zeitung* has a quiet little chuckle to itself over the fact that for the first time during the war the British hung out flags and rang the church-bells in celebration of victory —the abortive victory of Cambrai. It says:

> "With one single heavy counter-blow the defenders of Cambrai have taken away from the third British army a large part of the territorial gains secured by it by the surprize attack of November 20. On the left flank, indeed, the German line has even been pushed to a point beyond where it ran on November 19. In London, in complete misunderstanding of the strategic position, the 'victory of Cambrai' was magnified into the greatest event of the war. For the first time in three and one-half years the bells of St. Paul's were rung. It was a surprize blow by the English, but it was parried so rapidly by us that the whole operation has merely had a local effect. The German counter-blow, however, was no surprize thrust, at least it should not have been one for the English."

HOW QUEBEC TAKES HER DEFEAT

THE TROUNCING DEFEAT sustained by Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the anti-Conscription remnant of the Liberal party seems to have produced an attack of nerves among the French-Canadians, and to judge from the comments on the election in the Quebec papers, especially those in the French language, there seems to be a pretty general feeling that the antiwar and anti-British policy pursued by the French leaders may have been carried a little bit too far. Both sides are agreed that this election has shown that there is a gulf between Quebec and the rest of Canada which it is going to be very difficult to bridge. This is very frankly admitted by the Clerical paper, *L'Action Catholique*, of Quebec, which says:

> "The first impression given by the result is that there has occurred a 'break.' It really is a break between the West and the East, between the old Provinces and the new. And this break will surely worry the victors of the day, that is, those of the victors who look to the real future of our dear Canada. It is the vote of the younger Provinces that has sent back the Borden Government to power. Those who have thus sent the Union Cabinet to power know nothing of Canadian history or traditions."

La Patrie, of Montreal, perhaps the greatest of the French-Canadian papers, is seriously worried, and recognizes that the Quebec Nationalists and Mr. Bourassa ought to have been supprest before they had injected a permanent race-feeling into Canadian life. It says:

> "Canada could not speak more clearly; yesterday's verdict is the expression of the civilian population's opinion. It is what we had forecasted. The sister Provinces have reaffirmed their willingness to share the fate of the mother country, while Quebec did not share the same enthusiasm for the participation in the war. That difference in views and ideals is attributed to a certain school (Bourassa and his press), which misrepresented Great Britain and was allowed to carry on the greatest campaign of disaffection, discrediting both England and France, and every day publishing ill-inspired attacks against the united Empire. To that antipatriotic campaign were added recently the utterances of the Liberal press, which contributed to increase the misunderstanding between the two races. Quebec has not elected one French-speaking Minister to protect her interests in the Cabinet, but we do not believe that Sir Robert Borden will take that as a justification for refusing fair play to old Quebec. He is expected to treat her with justice and to pave the way to reconciliation between the two bitterest elements."

Refusing to recognize that the race-issue was introduced and maintained in French politics by the French-Canadians themselves, *Le Soleil*, of Quebec, complains querulously that this weapon was used in the campaign:

> "The Liberal party was beaten yesterday at the polls in the West, through the defection of its leaders and of the Liberal press. Fanaticism and race-cries were brought to play against Laurier; still, Laurier certainly gained a real victory through his own and personal prestige, for where, under the old Government, he only had 87 seats against Borden's 134, after yesterday's election he has about 100 against Borden's 135. Laurier had everything against him, so far as material resources are concerned: Press, money, organization. Notwithstanding all this, the noble old man fought and won a larger following."

One of the leading French-Canadian papers in Canada, *La Presse*, of Montreal, deplores the break and exhibits a singularly conciliatory spirit:

> "Hon. N. W. Rowell suggests the future depends upon Quebec. It does not depend upon Quebec only. Quebec is quite disposed, and always has been disposed, to fulfil its national obligations. As history proves, we are not cowards. Long ago this would have been demonstrated in the present war if

> at the outset fanaticism toward the French-Canadians had been discarded in the general interest of Canada. Before the election campaign began the '*bonne entente*' was obtaining results in removing prejudices. Now that the election is over, this movement can be set in motion again."

The French-Canadians are certainly right to be apprehensive, for no little bitterness against them is shown by the English-speaking press all over Canada. For example, we find the Kingston *Daily Standard* urging the new Government to exclude all French-Canadians from the Cabinet, and writing vindictively:

> "For ourselves we should like to see Premier Borden name an all-English Cabinet, without a single French-Canadian in it. The French-Canadians have voted to isolate themselves. So be it. As they have made their bed, so should they lie. An all-English Cabinet is what the country needs and what the country will hope for."

Equally bitter are the remarks made by the St. John *Standard:*

> "Sir Robert Borden will meet the next House with the strongest Cabinet Canada has ever known. This is gratifying, as it makes certain that this country is in for five years of administration which, unfettered by party ties, can govern the country with the single eye to the country's welfare.
>
> "Quebec is to be pitied. The voters of that Province have prayed to false political gods.
>
> "It will not be surprizing if, with a practically solid English Canada behind them, the members of the Union Government should decide that the St. Lawrence Province requires a sharp lesson."

The Toronto *Mail and Empire* hopes that this election will "bring Quebec to her senses." It remarks:

> "If Quebec were merely drifting it would be bad enough. She has pilots, but they are steering her upon the rocks. This election may rouse her people to a sense of the seriousness of the situation they have been brought to by the leaders in whom they put their confidence. The time must be near at hand when thoughtful French-Canadians, taking note of the dangerous isolation of their province, must begin to ask—Who is to blame for this?"

The election does not seem to have brought the hot-heads of Quebec to a realization of the seriousness of the situation, for Mr. J. N. Francœur, the Deputy for Letbinière, has introduced in the Provincial Parliament of Quebec a secession motion which runs:

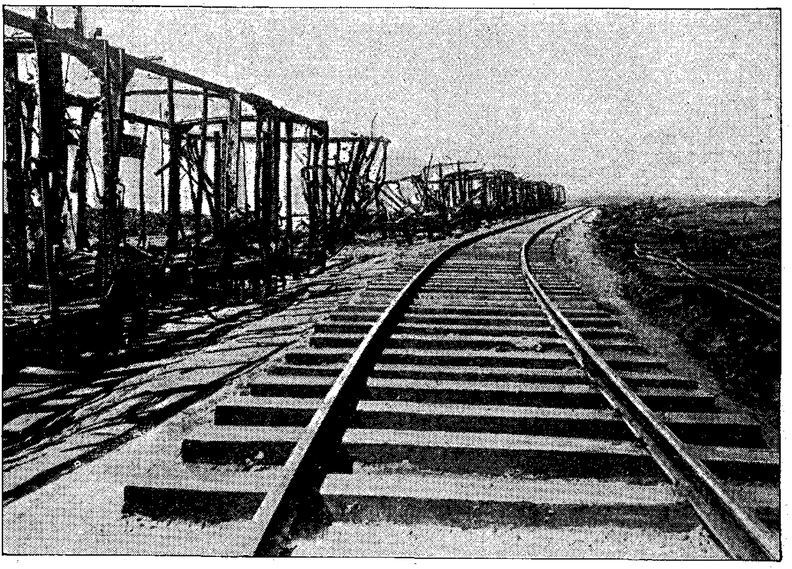
> "That this House is of the opinion that the Province of Quebec would be disposed to accept the rupture of the Federation pact of 1867 if, in the opinion of the other provinces, it is believed that the said Province is an obstacle to the union and the progress and development of Canada."

The more generous of the English-speaking papers, noting the general tendency of the press, are making impassioned pleas for Canadian unity. For example, the Toronto *Globe*, under the heading, "Let Canada Be United," says:

> "Canada has determined her course. Parliament can not misconstrue. It is a national declaration commanding the consecration of the entire resources of the Dominion to the supreme task of war-winning. It is profoundly regrettable that the sister Province of Quebec has not shared more generously and gloriously in this declaration at a time when Britain and France are welded by service and sacrifice in the common cause—when the paramount purpose of both people from which the Canadian races sprang has united them in patriotic endeavor and wiped out the memory of centuries of suspicion and strife. Their descendants in Canada will fall far short of their responsibility in this crisis if they fail to come together in mutual understanding and mutual cooperation. To this end Canadian statesmanship should set itself. To this end the people of all provinces should stedfastly strive. . . . We must inspire confidence and *camaraderie*. We must give loyal sympathy and support to our fellow Canadians of French origin who are 'feeling their way' out into the larger and nobler sphere of national citizenship and service."

PRUSSIA'S "DEMOCRATIC" FRANCHISE

THE KAISER'S RELUCTANT PROMISE, given months ago, to bring the franchise of Prussia more into harmony with modern democratic principles, has at last received a tardy fulfilment in the shape of three reform bills introduced into the Prussian House of Representatives, which, if passed, will give the people some sort of voice in the government under which they live. The *Frankfurter Zeitung* summarizes these bills for us, and says:



AFTER THE AIRMEN HAD DONE WITH IT.

A munition-train behind the German lines after being bombed by British airmen. This photo was found on a German prisoner.

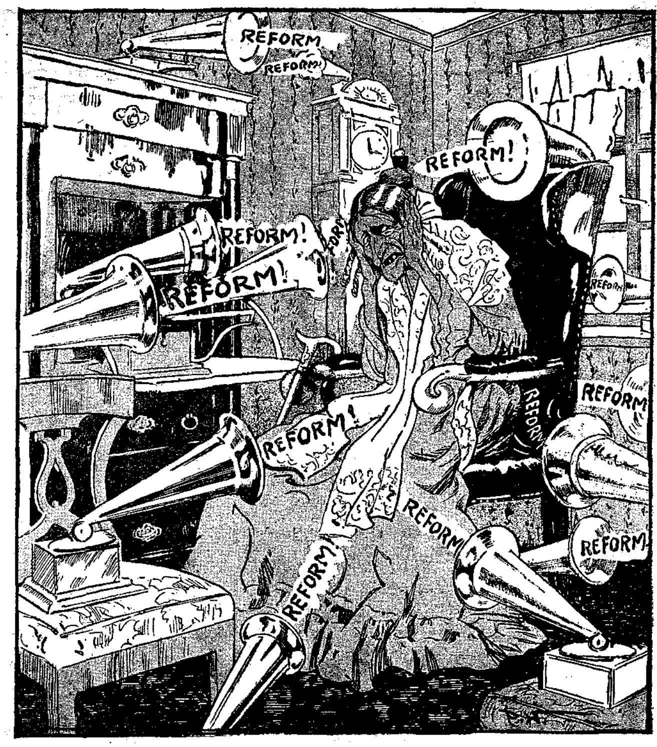
> "The first bill regulates the Prussian franchise as follows: every Prussian subject who has been such for at least three years, has resided in the same parish for at least one year, and is at least twenty-five years of age, will be entitled to vote. Each elector will have one vote and all elections will be by secret ballot. In cases where no candidate obtains an absolute majority a second ballot will be necessary. The bill also provides for the redistribution of seats, giving a slight increase to the number of representatives in the larger towns.
>
> "The second bill modifies the right of the Prussian Herrenhaus as regards the control of finances. Whereas heretofore the Herrenhaus could adopt or reject a budget *en bloc*, now the bill provides that henceforth a budget may be discust in detail and single clauses amended.
>
> "The third bill deals with the reform of the Herrenhaus and proposes that it shall be thus composed: Ten representatives of the princely houses, twenty-four from the princes and counts, twenty-six from the remainder of the hereditary nobility, thirty-six burgomasters, thirty-six great land-owners, thirty-six representatives of commerce and industry, seventy-six from local governing bodies, both municipal and rural, thirty-six from agriculture, thirty-six from trades, twelve from the artizan class, sixteen from the universities, and sixteen ecclesiastics, while the Kaiser, as King of Prussia, will nominate one hundred and fifty other peers, making a total of five hundred and ten representatives."

We get the views of the Imperial Chancellor, Count von Hertling, in his speech when introducing the bills, and he is thus reported in the *Berliner Tageblatt:*

> "I quite recognize that these proposals signify a turning-point in the history of Prussia, and the fact that this turning-point has now been reached will evoke in wide circles painful feeling and serious objections, but the task of true statesmanship is to take innovations in hand courageously when the people's need for development requires it.
>
> "It is my deepest conviction that this need has now arisen. The present electoral system is obsolete, and you will be doing the Fatherland a very signal service if you assent to the proposals now laid before you. The bill regulating the composition

of the Upper House aims at bringing that chamber into closer touch with the life of the nation, for Prussia is no longer the agrarian State that it was in the fifties."

Generally speaking, the proposed amendments to the Prussian constitution are not received with any too great favor by the press, and the proposal to raise the electoral age to twenty-five years combined with the residence restrictions distinctly annoys the Liberal and Socialist papers. For example, the Berlin Socialist *Vorwärts* says:


REFORM
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THE NEW SONG.

THE REACTIONARY PARTY—"That music is a dead march for me."

—*Ulk* (Berlin).

"This deprives a great number of Prussian citizens of their electoral right, and altho it would be too much to say that the advantages of an equal, direct, and secret franchise have been nullified by these restrictions, it must be pointed out that there are no tenable reasons for this retrograde step. An intelligent political cooperation hardly depends on whether one has belonged to Prussia for a greater or lesser period. However, more criticism is necessary regarding the stipulation of one year's residence at one place as compared with the former period of six months."

The Bremen *Weser Zeitung* takes a similar stand and says that "the disadvantages of the restrictions can not be underrated," but the Conservative press make light of these points, and the Berlin *Kreuzzeitung* thinks that "the residence restriction will have no influence worth mentioning on the House as elected according to this reformed franchise law." The full fury of the Conservatives, however, is exprest by the reactionary Berlin *Deutsche Tageszeitung*, which remarks:

"The contents and aims of these proposals are that suffrage for the Lower House shall be completely democratic; the Upper House is to be turned from its present predominating Prussian traditions and from the country to the industrial side and to the cities. By one stroke of the pen all that has stood the test is to be abandoned without suitable ballast having been found to give the Prussian ship of state the necessary steadiness among the rocks and whirlpools of radicalism. We do not believe that the parties which are now in the front line and feel themselves responsible for the future of the Prussian monarchy can possibly follow the Government along such a road."

It is amusing to find the very radical *Westminster Gazette* in substantial agreement with so typically Junker an organ as the *Deutsche Tageszeitung*, but the London paper says that the new scheme of Prussian reform is "a snare and a delusion." It makes a few tart remarks about Count von Hertling's sincerity, and proceeds:

"Count von Hertling was clearly speaking tongue in cheek in his description of the new electoral law to the Prussian Lower House. 'The Bill,' he said, 'regulating the composition of the Upper House aims at bringing that House into closer touch with national life. Prussia is no longer the agrarian state of the fifties.' Bismarck, we all remember, made it his boast that he had given the most democratic franchise in Europe, but he was careful to withhold even the semblance of power from the elected representatives. The new democratic franchise in Prussia is a sham of the same kind. Not only is it overlaid by an Upper House, in which Junker domination is secured and entrenched, but that Upper House is given a new measure of financial control. Hitherto it has only been able to accept or reject the Budget as a whole. In future it will be able to reverse the decision of the Lower House upon any particular vote, while the Government will have power to proceed with the expenditure of money, even if the Budget is not voted. Under the guise of reform the governing powers in Prussia are made less than ever dependent on the will of the people. We are not surprized that Count Hertling should have again and again been interrupted by ironical cheers from the Right."

A remarkable speech was made by the Independent Socialist Deputy, Dr. Strobel, during the course of the franchise debate, which shows that some Germans, at least, are a little tired of militarism. Urging a more liberal franchise, Deputy Strobel said:

"Peace would soon be achieved if Prussianized Germany were so reformed that it could be regarded as belonging to the world's culture. The nation's reactionary Prussian system is the strongest support of our militarism and imperialism, which we have to thank for this hideous war.

"When Heydebrand, the Conservative leader, asks where Prussia would be with a parliamentary system, the answer must be that a democratic, sane Prussia would never have been rushed into this frightful catastrophe of war. When Heydebrand declares that the majority parties in the Reichstag have taken advantage of the serious position of the country to demand governmental reform, he must be asked who brought the country into this serious position. It was the thoughtlessness of the Government and of the parties which encouraged the Government to support that unbelievable ultimatum to Servia. . . . . .

"The military party's history, as illustrated by the ultimatum to Servia, shows that of necessity foreign countries can have no faith in the German Government so long as it finds its support in the present ruling classes. The German people certainly did not want the war, and the vast majority of the Army would vote for peace by agreement and without annexations. The German people is not content to be a pariah any longer. It wishes to make its peace with humanity as a free people."

THE VATICAN AND CHURCH LANDS—The vast wealth of the Church in Austria and Hungary is in danger, says the London *New Europe*, which writes:

"An interesting side-light comes from Hungary upon one possible reason for the Vatican's anxiety for peace. The organ of that genuinely devout and clerical minister, Count Apponyi, announced on September 9 that a scheme was in preparation for regulating all the vast episcopal domains of Hungary, pooling their revenues, and after the assignment of fixt salaries to the hierarchy, using the balance for opening schools and augmenting the stipends of the lower clergy. Under such a scheme the Primate would receive an annual income of $60,000 (instead of $625,000!), and archbishops and bishops, $37,500 and $25,000 respectively. This is intended to forestall the demand of secularization of church lands, which is one of the main planks in the program of the Radicals. The vast wealth of the episcopate and the great monastic orders in Hungary and Austria, and the alarming growth of mortmain, already presented a very serious problem before the war. In view of the Dual Monarchy's approaching bankruptcy it is almost inevitable that after the war this wealth should be utilized by the state as one of the means of paying its debts. Considerations of this kind probably help to explain the presence of the Cardinal Primate in the chair at a recent peace meeting in Budapest indorsing the papal note."

SAVING-FOOD-AND-WINNING-THE-WAR

Prepared for THE LITERARY DIGEST by the UNITED STATES FOOD ADMINISTRATION and especially designed for High School Use.

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HERBERT HOOVER,
United States Food Administrator.

"FOOD WILL WIN the war." Have you read that sentence, in a newspaper, or on a poster, or placard? Or have you ever heard any one say it? And did you ever stop to think exactly what it means?

Perhaps it has always seemed to you that in order to win a war the only things necessary are enough guns, enough ammunition, enough war-ships, and enough brave soldiers. It is true that all those things are necessary. But none of them will have the chance to do the best work they are capable of unless there is *enough food.*

In a certain Northern town, as in many other towns, the boys of one of the schools used to have snowball fights every winter afternoon. Of course they were good-natured affairs, but the boys would form two "armies" and snowball for hours on the town common until one side or the other was driven to cover. Yet in nearly every instance it was the boys on the east side of the common who were victorious. The fellows on that side were neither older nor better shots. It was all due to an old lady who lived on that side. She had had sons and grandsons of her own, and she came to take an interest in these mimic battles. She watched them regularly and always wanted the boys on her side of the common to force back the others. And so, nearly every afternoon as twilight came on, she would run out with a great pan of fresh doughnuts or gingersnaps, for "her boys," as she called them. They would munch these hastily while they made new snowballs. And then, in every case, "her boys" would turn in and put the other side utterly to rout and drive them to cover. It was food, nothing else, which used to win those snowball battles!

Of course, that is only an incident, but on a tiny scale it illustrates the part that food is going to play in this war.

THE WAR FOR DEMOCRACY AND FREEDOM—Our boys are fighting over there beside the Allies in the cause of democracy and freedom. Meanwhile there are many persons at home either too old or too young to take part in the actual battles. Yet they can help win those battles. And they can help in precisely the same way that the old lady helped—by seeing that our side has plenty to eat.

And "our side" does not mean merely our soldiers. It means the soldiers of the Allies and their families. First, because if the workers at home are hungry, their work suffers; and secondly, because a soldier who is worried about the folks at home is bound to feel discontented and become less useful.

HOW FOOD MAY WIN THE WAR—Now just what is the exact way to arrange matters here at home so that "food will win the war"?

The first thing of all that you must do is to "understand."—Nothing big in this world has ever been accomplished unless people first understood what they were trying to do and why. And for just that reason before you can hope to do your share in making food win the war, you have got to understand what the food-problems are and what the necessary solutions.

WHY THE ALLIES NEED FOOD—You have heard that the Allies need food from us. Before the war they required a large quantity of food from this country. But now they must have more—a great deal more—for the reason that they do not produce so much themselves as they used to before the war. Men of France, Italy, and Great Britain who used to be farmers are now soldiers. Therefore their farms at home do not produce so much food. Very probably many of the boys who read this have had gardens of their own; if so, they know very well that they have to be on the job to get large crops. They can not expect to go off and stay in another town and still have their gardens produce just as large a yield. For the same reason, the farms of the Allies have not yielded so much since the war began, even tho the women left at home have faithfully devoted what time they could spare to agriculture.

WHY WE MUST SEND WHEAT—With smaller farm crops, the Allies have had to make up the difference by getting more food from us. That means that we have had to send them wheat, *and shall have to*, for three reasons: (a) Wheat is a food that the people of the Allied countries are naturally used to, and it is not fair to ask those who are enduring all the hardships of war to change their eating habits. (b) Wheat contains a large degree of nourishment in a compact form and so requires far less ship space than bulky foods, as, for instance, potatoes. (c) Wheat is better for export than corn, because it does not spoil so easily as corn-meal and because the Allies are not well provided with mills for grinding corn.

WHY WE MUST SEND MEAT—Having smaller crops of all sorts, the Allies have naturally had less fodder to feed their cattle. And so they have been forced to kill a great many of their cattle, for the reason that they could not feed them. Moreover, soldiers at the front are working hard and undergoing hardships, so that they require a great deal of meat. For that reason the regular supplies of meat have been dwindling. And as many of the herds have been killed off, the Allies have suffered from a shortage of dairy supplies. Perhaps you will realize all this better by learning that the Allies have 33,000,000 fewer food-animals than before the war.

WHY WE MUST SEND FATS AND SUGAR—Another consequence of this is the Allies' shortage of animal fats and pork, which they especially need and must get from us.

Nations at war require vast quantities of animal fats, partly for the glycerin which goes into ammunition, partly as fuel for the body to keep vitality at high level. It is for this same fuel value that the Allies also need sugar, yet all they can have must come from the same sources as our own; we must share our sugar with them.

Now you know the foods which the Allies—their soldiers and families at home—want from us, and must have from us. They are WHEAT, MEAT, FATS, and SUGAR. That, of course, is stating matters in the briefest possible way, meat, for example, including not merely beef but pork, which the Allies especially need at present.

HOW OUR TASK MAY BE ACCOMPLISHED—To provide those foods and to ship them across the sea for our soldiers and for the Allied nations: such is our task and our duty. How shall we accomplish it?

The answer is not difficult. There is, this beginning of 1918, just so much food in the United States—just so much and no more. From this store of all kinds of food the Allies need wheat, meat, fats, and sugar. *The more we can ship to them, the sooner we shall win the war.* But the more we eat of those foods, the less we can ship.

Therefore, there is just one thing which this nation must do: eat something else instead. In other words, the people of this country must in their daily diet substitute other foods for those which the Allies need. So doing will prove the truth of that statement: "Food Will Win the War."

Just how to substitute other foods for those needed, and how to do it more wisely and effectively, will be told in later articles.

Meanwhile it is the duty of every boy and girl who calls himself patriotic to understand the conditions which have been explained here. By understanding, he can take the first steps toward making himself *directly useful* in helping win the war. And that should be the great ambition of every boy and girl who is proud to call the United States home.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

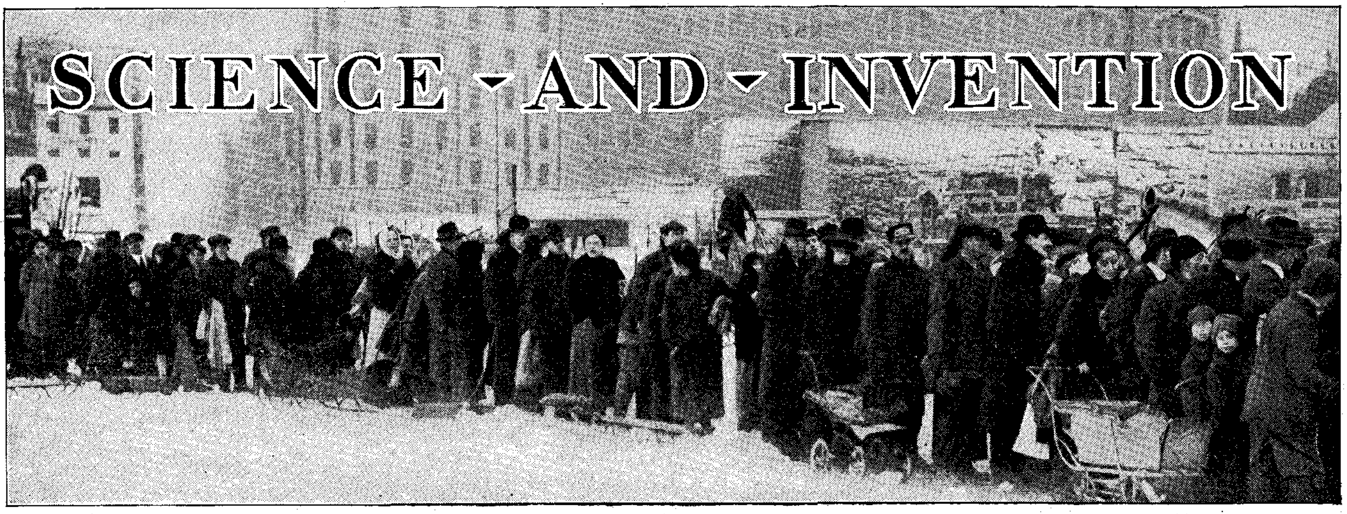
1. You have read in newspapers of an army's morale. What does this mean? How does insufficient food affect this morale? directly? indirectly?

2. Tell several ways in which insufficient feeding of a country's civilian population impairs the efficiency of that country's army?

3. Amplify, in so far as you can, each of the three stated reasons for shipping wheat to the Allies.

4. What pork products are especially desirable for shipment abroad?

SCIENCE - AND - INVENTION



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A "FIRING-LINE" THAT ALSO NEEDS CONSIDERATION: A LINE OF NEW-YORK POOR AT A COAL-YARD.

TO WIN THE WAR WITH AMERICAN COAL

THIS IS A COAL WAR—caused partly by coal and carried on by means of coal. It is emphatically a war of mechanics, of engines, of explosive devices, of transportation, of manufactures. Behind the industrial achievements of England, France, and Germany, we are told in a bulletin of the United States Fuel Administration (Washington) lie their coal resources. Being comparatively short of these, Germany coveted the rich deposits of France and Belgium. Germany's coal hunger was in great part the cause of this war, and her possession of the French and Belgian coal-fields enables her to prolong it. Superiority of coal-power will end the war successfully for those nations who possess it, for behind munitions lies the coal-supply, and underlying transportation is the fuel problem. The munition-factories devour coal. Our war-ships must be coaled, our Army cantonments must be supplied with fuel. Our railroads eat up additional coal for power. And, meanwhile, the needs of our allies call for replenishment of coal-supplies from our mines. Nor can we safely chance a shortage of coal for home-heating. To quote from the bulletins issued by the Fuel Administration:

"When it is popularly said that munitions will win the war, or that finances will win the war, these are merely other ways of saying that the production of coal, and its application to the war in armaments, war-ships, merchant ships, shells, rifles, tanks, submarines, aeroplanes, or locomotives, will win the war. The war has created a demand upon the United States for one hundred million more tons of coal this year than is normally produced. Because of the car-shortage and the congested condition of the railroads, it will be impossible to increase the supply more than fifty million tons. The remaining gap of fifty million tons will have to be filled in by conservation in the homes and industrial plants of America.

"Arbitrary limitation is a last resort and to be avoided if possible. In many cases industrial concerns have already begun a voluntary curtailment of their use of coal. The way to prevent those losses incident upon limitation of industry is for every consumer of coal to cut off waste and unnecessary consumption with an iron hand and to start on this intensive course of conservation without a moment's delay."

The following, we are told, are the lines of investigation and effort already undertaken by the Conservation Division of the United States Fuel Administration:

"First. The consolidation of plants engaged in certain industries, such as ice-making.

"Secondly. The reduction of electricity used for illuminated signs and needless outdoor display.

"Thirdly. The urging of Congress to pass a law for daylight saving, which, it is estimated, will save at least 1,000,000 tons of coal per year.

"Fourthly. The encouragement of the fullest use of all water-power now available, and the development of all water-power which can be made available in time to be of use in the present emergency.

"Fifthly. A campaign to increase cutting of wood for fuel.

"Sixthly. The encouragement of coal conservation in the homes of the country."

If every householder in the country would save one small shovelful of coal each day, at the end of a year the saving would amount to 15,000,000 tons. During the six winter months a saving of one furnace shovelful of coal a day would amount to 25,000,000 tons of coal. This would go far toward wiping out the national shortage of 50,000,000 tons. The Fuel Administration offers practical instructions for the economical use of coal in stoves and furnaces, recommends oil-stoves and fireless cookers as coal-savers, and asks householders to keep rooms below a temperature of 68 degrees. Shortage of coal, we are told in another bulletin, is not so much a matter of mining as it is of carrying-facilities. We read:

"This country is short on transportation facilities, therefore it is short on coal.

"One begins to comprehend the nature of the problem when confronted with this fact—the transportation of the 30,000,000 car-loads of coal mined last year constituted more than half of all the freight carried by the railroads.

"But when to this eloquent factor is added the explanation that the railroads themselves in their locomotives used last year between 125,000,000 and 135,000,000 tons of coal, and that they will this year require for their use 175,000,000 tons, it is seen that the hauling of coal is a burdensome proposition.

"The greatest handicap to increasing coal-production during the past year has been the lack of railroad coal-cars, aggravated by the lack of engines and other transportation facilities.

"It would be fortunate, indeed, if the railroads could use their entire rolling stock and power plants, their terminals and their labor force, for the transportation of munitions, of soldiers, and of food, so vital to the prosecution of the war.

"But, unfortunately, the transportation of coal alone uses up 30 per cent. of the entire railroad equipment of the United States, cars, locomotives, sidings, and terminals. Coal shipments clutter up and overtax the roads.

"Coal is therefore not only a problem, but it creates problems. It may all be summed up in transportation. The waster with the shovel, therefore, is a man who stands in a very serious position. With every shovelful of coal he wastes he lowers the efficiency of the man on the firing-line, he lowers the temperature of the cantonments, he reduces the speed of the submarine destroyers, he diminishes the force of the projectile, he slackens the speed of the munition-plant—in brief, he compels the unfortunate use of cars to carry him another shovelful of coal."

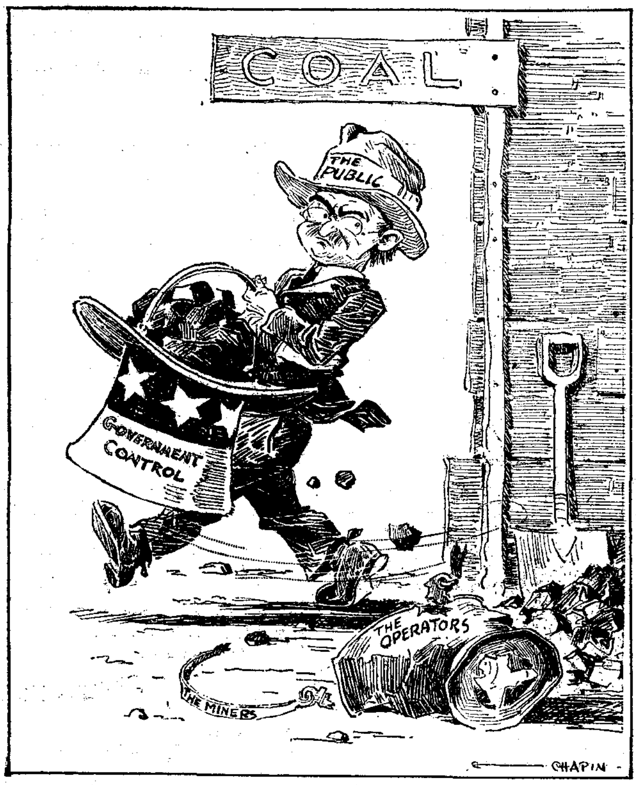
There has been much speculation regarding the hoarding of coal by consumers, both domestic and industrial, and while there is some truth in the stories, the reports have undoubtedly been exaggerated. Says the Administration:

"Some people are unquestionably attempting to put into their cellars a full winter's supply of coal. This is most unpatriotic in the present emergency. Such hoarding by one man may mean a cold house for his neighbor. In England the amount of coal delivered to any one householder is limited and is figured on the number of rooms in the house. The new Canadian regulations make it a criminal offense for any dealer to furnish a householder with more than sixty days' supply of coal.

"There has been some agitation in this country regarding large coal-piles held in reserve by industrial companies. Photographs of huge piles of coal amounting to two and three hundred thousand tons have been sent to the Fuel Administration. Here again the situation has been exaggerated. Investigation has shown in nearly every case where large piles of coal are brought to the attention of the Fuel Administration that the stock is only a reasonable reserve. One pile in Ohio said to contain between three and four hundred thousand tons of coal is for a large steel company, and really represents not over two months' supply. Should this company neglect to maintain a reserve supply as large as this, those agencies for the Government which are looking to it to furnish steel for guns, ships, aeroplanes, and thousands of other war-requirements, would hold the steel company negligent."

THE FUEL VALUE OF WOOD

THOSE who plan to relieve the coal shortage this winter by burning wood can figure, roughly speaking, that two pounds of seasoned wood have a fuel value equal to one pound of coal, according to a bulletin issued by the Forest Service (Washington). While different kinds of wood have different fuel values, the foresters say that in general the greater the dry weight of a non-resinous wood, the more heat it will give out when burned. For such species as hickory, oak, beech, birch, hard maple, ash, locust, long-leaf pine, or cherry, which have comparatively high fuel values, one cord, weighing about 4,000 pounds, is required to equal one ton of coal.



IF THE OLD SCUTTLE BREAKS, GET A NEW ONE.
—Chapin in the St. Louis *Republic.*

"It takes a cord and a half of short-leaf pine, hemlock, red gum, Douglas fir, sycamore, or soft maple, which weighs about 3,000 pounds a cord, to equal a ton of coal, while for cedar, redwood, poplar, catalpa, Norway pine, cypress, basswood, spruce, and white pine, two cords, weighing about 2,000 pounds each, are required. Weight for weight, however, there is very little difference between various species. Resin affords about twice as much heat as wood, so that resinous woods have a greater heat value per pound than non-resinous woods, and this increased value varies, of course, with the resin content. The available heat value of a cord of wood depends also on the amount of moisture present. When the wood is green part of the heat which it is capable of yielding is taken up in evaporating the water. The more water in the wood the more heat is lost.

SAVE EVERY UNNECESSARY SHOVELFUL.

"During the six winter months a saving of one furnace-shovelful of coal a day would amount to 25,000,000 tons of coal."

"Furthermore, cords vary as to the amount of solid wood they contain, even when they are of the standard dimension and occupy 128 cubic feet of space. A certain proportion of this space is made up of air spaces between the sticks, and this air-space may be considerable in a cord of twisted, crooked, and knotty sticks. Out of the 128 cubic feet, a fair average of solid wood is about 80 cubic feet. This, however, applies to the standard cord, in which the sticks are cut to four-foot lengths and piled 4 feet high and 8 feet long. Instead of buying the four-foot lengths, however, most people nowadays have the sticks cut into two-foot lengths by a gasoline-saw. This results in a saving of both time and labor. The purchaser should, however, take care to see that he gets full measurement when wood is bought in this way. In parts of New England a stock of 16-inch wood 4 feet high and 8 feet long is commonly sold as a 'run,' but contains only one-third of a cord. Where wood is to be burned in a stove or furnace intended for coal it will be found desirable, the foresters say, to cover the grate partly with sheet iron or fire-brick, in order to reduce the draft. If this is not done the wood is wasted by being consumed too fast, and makes a very hot fire, which may damage the fire-box.

"It is pointed out, however, that heat value is not the only test of usefulness in fuel wood, and since 95 per cent. of all wood used for fuel is consumed for domestic purposes, largely in farm-houses, such factors as rapidity of burning and ease of lighting are important. Each section of the country has its favored woods, and these are said to be, in general, the right ones to use. Hickory, of the non-resinous woods, has the highest fuel value per unit volume of wood, and has other advantages. It burns evenly, and, as housewives say, holds the heat. The oaks come next, followed by beech, birch, and maple. The white pines have a relatively low heat value per unit volume, but have other advantages. They ignite readily and give out a quick, hot flame, but one that soon dies down. This makes them favorites with rural housekeepers as a summer wood, because they are particularly adapted for hot days in the kitchen. The same is true of gray birch or 'white birch,' as it is often called, in the regions in which it abounds. With the resinous pines a drawback is their oily, black smoke."

PUTTING OUT A BURNING COAL-PILE

THE ACCOMPANYING PHOTOGRAPH, reproduced from *The Black Diamond* (Chicago), is not a cloud-capped mountain range, but a burning pile of coal of the Northern Coal & Dock Company, at Superior, Wis. This pile is estimated to contain 100,000 tons and the fire had been burning for something like three weeks. Efforts to smother the fire or to segregate it in any one portion of the pile had yielded no results. We read in the paper named above:

Courtesy of "The Black Diamond," Chicago.

NOT A VOLCANO, BUT AN EXPIRING COAL-FIRE.

This vapor arose while the fire consuming a 100,000-ton coal-pile was being extinguished by deluging it with a flood of bicarbonate of soda.

"The fire was brought under control finally by J. A. Thomas, of Columbus, Ohio, who used an especially designed engine for fighting fires which uses bicarbonate of soda. The engine incidentally was taken from Columbus to Superior especially for this work. When he arrived there he found that he could only get at Superior twelve barrels of bicarbonate of soda and by inquiry he found twelve barrels more at St. Paul and Minneapolis, making twenty-four in all. His estimate was, however, that to cope with the fire in the coal-pile it would take fully four hundred barrels. Rather than attempting the whole job with less material than was necessary, he attacked the fire at the point of origin and over a section 150 feet long by 100 feet wide and 12 feet high. He used nozzles which poured in 250 gallons to the minute. He succeeded in extinguishing the fire in that portion within two hours. One of the interesting features of this test was that a cloud of vapor rose from the coal-pile and settled over it as shown in the picture. This was followed by a series of explosions inside the coal-pile which were more or less strong, and resulted, as Mr. Thomas explained, from the sudden cooling of the coal as the chemical struck it. The interesting part about this demonstration is the fact that an effective method has been found for the quick extinguishing of fires in coal-piles, which are said to be especially bothersome this year."

OUR ALLY, THE BEE—Should war make it necessary, says a recent bulletin of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, this country could produce a large part of its sugar-supply without planting an acre. It would merely be necessary to instal colonies of bees upon waste lands and in vacant lots. We read in this publication:

"Almost every plant blossom that grows contains honey which can not be extracted in commercial quantities except by the bee. For this reason the campaign which the United States Department of Agriculture has started to increase the production of honey is a real war-economy measure. It does not call for the planting of new lands or the overworking of old ones. It is a method to use a food-supply which otherwise remains untouched. The important thing is to create new bee-keepers. The Department experts have confined their attention to persons who are already keeping bees. Bee-keeping is a much easier matter than is generally supposed. Any man who goes about it carefully should be able to produce a good crop of honey the first year."

ROADS OF TAR AND HAY

TEMPORARY ROAD-MENDING with vegetable fiber, such as hay or straw, or even leaves and twigs, is no new thing; but an interesting attempt to systematize the method now being made in Wisconsin seems decidedly novel. The Highway Commission of that State is attempting to improve long stretches of soft sand roads by covering them with a sort of matting of hay or straw mixed with tar. In most cases a layer of sand was added at the top. Hay without tar, and also tar without hay, have been tried, but chiefly as a demonstration to the residents of certain neighborhoods, of "what not to do." The experimental sections, which were treated in various ways, covered nearly 7,000 square yards, and the total cost was about ten cents per square yard. Says H. J. Knelling, assistant to the State Highway Engineer, who describes the work in *Engineering and Contracting* (New York, November 7):

"Under the new State Trunk Highway Law of Wisconsin, the Wisconsin Highway Commission found itself with the problem of looking after the maintenance of about 700 miles of almost pure sand roads. These roads were of such a nature that many of them were impassable in dry weather and often impassable in wet weather. In other words, these roads were in bad condition a considerable share of the summer season and a part of the spring season.

"In times past many of the local communities had placed a covering of clay on those roads where any clay was available. Still other communities had placed some straw or hay on the traveled section, but this was always quite temporary, as the hay was soon ground to pieces or rotted away.

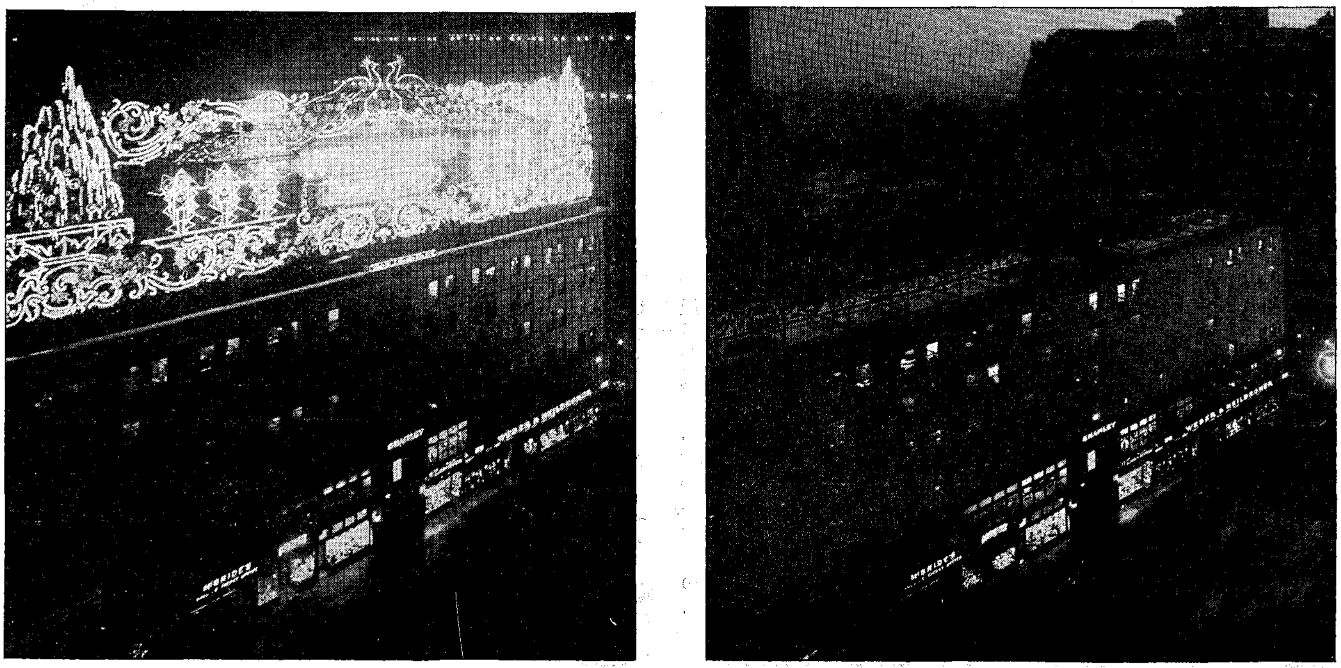
"Mr. Hirst, the State Highway Engineer, conceived the idea of making a mat of hay and tar, which would have some strength within itself and also would be able to withstand the elements.

"With this end in view the State Highway Department in the month of August, 1917, constructed a few short sections built in various manners. After about six weeks' wear the condition of some of these sections was satisfactory enough to warrant the construction of a longer experiment. This latter piece was built during the first week of October and is somewhat over a mile in length.

"No particular merits are claimed as yet for this type of construction, but it will be watched with a great deal of interest by the engineers of the department and the various local people who live in the sand sections of the State. . . . . .

"It is not hoped by the State Highway Commission that all of these sections will be an economic success. However, if a method is arrived at by which these sand roads can be made passable at reasonable cost the Commission will be satisfied. If the section that is now three months old, built in a similar manner, is any criterion, traffic will be well pleased with this type of road. On this section in question there is a very well-compacted mat form which is carrying the traffic in a very satisfactory manner.

"As stated by the writer, this experiment will be watched with a great deal of interest, and at some future date the Commission will be glad to publish a description of the condition of the road and what it believes concerning it."



DARKENING BROADWAY TO SAVE COAL—A HUGE ELECTRIC SIGN "BEFORE" AND "AFTER."

SAVING WHEAT BY SAVING MEAT

STEAK AT FIFTY CENTS A POUND is an indication, not of coming national calamity, but of a more sane national prosperity, for it measures the decrease of a wasteful, extravagant method of food-production. So we are told by Milo Hastings in an article on "The Extravagance of Meat," in *Physical Culture* (New York, December). He appears to lean very strongly toward vegetarianism as a war-measure to save grain and to improve the national health. Pork he condemns utterly. At the same time, he looks for no sweeping or hasty measures:

"But the problem is not so simple that salvation could come from a sudden prohibition of the waste of grain to produce meat, as we are prohibiting a similar waste of grain in the production of alcohol.

"The advocacy of the prohibition of meat-products indeed presents as logical an argument and would find as many adherents to-day as the idea of the prohibition of alcoholic liquors did seventy-five years ago. When prohibition was first conceived a vast majority of men believed alcoholic liquors to be nutritious, healthful, stimulating, and generally beneficial to the human species and a sure proof of human civilization.

"To-day we have a very rapidly increasing group of sensible people who, while not advocating strict vegetarianism, believe that temperance in meat-eating is essential to health and efficiency. Taking the parallel one step further, we find that during all these days of the fight on alcohol the brandy-bottle was still present in the medicine-chest and drug-store, so that the good doctor could prescribe for those who needed it just as he prescribes meat to-day. And there you are. Alcohol wastes grain—meat wastes more. Alcohol is a food, but a harmful one—so is meat. Alcohol manufacture returns part of its waste products in the form of stock food. So live stock keep up soil fertility. Men drink alcohol because they like it. And that is why they eat meat. People who first opposed the manufacture of alcohol were called fanatics. So will I be by every hog-raiser and sausage-eater who reads this article.

"All analogies break down if carried too far, and I do not wish my readers to take too seriously the future police raids of meat-eating joints. There are a lot of uses for the sad-eyed cow, the industrious hen, and the innocent lamb that commend them to our toleration, even tho they be eating out of the crib of human food.

"For the pigs I find no just defense. With the possible exception of bristles for the manufacture of tooth-brushes there is very little reason to believe that the world will not be quite as happy and healthy if there were no pigs in existence except the trained ones that walk the tight ropes in circuses."

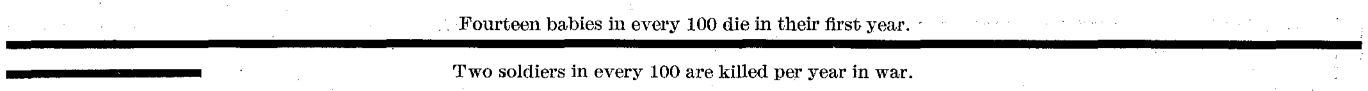
KEEPING THE WORKERS WELL

ONLY TWO OUT OF TEN industrial workers who are sick enough to need a doctor call one in; the other eight muddle along without one. It is scarcely a wonder that the average worker is not normal physically, we are told by Dr. Otto P. Geier, who writes on "The Health of the Working Force" in *Industrial Management* (New York). This being the case, the economic value of the industrial physician hardly needs demonstration. His employment in upbuilding the health of the working force has long passed the experimental stage, Dr. Geier thinks; and the editor assures us that his contributor "writes from extensive personal experience in industrial practise." The health of his employees is just as much a manufacturer's concern as the upkeep of his plant; and when he employs a physician to look after it he is not indulging in charity or philanthropy, but is exercising simple business economy. Writes Dr. Geier:

"An association comprising in its membership over two hundred and fifty physicians in such practise already exists; a representative committee has been working for some two years in standardizing and perfecting methods used in this practise. . . . . .

"The loss in wages to the workers on account of preventable but unprevented diseases runs annually to the billion-dollar mark. The accompanying loss to employers must surely be twice that amount when we remember what a large part bad health plays in inefficiency; in irregularity of attendance with its consequent poverty and low standard of living; in frequent shifting from job to job with the undermining of character and stability, in inducing alcoholism and other vices. The man struggling against a physical defect or disease uses every ounce of energy and loyalty in supporting his family. Can he have any loyalty left for his employer and firm? Is it human to expect it? . . . . .

"A number of years have now passed since industry began to recognize its social obligation. It first saw the economic advantage of substituting light, well-ventilated buildings for the dark, unsanitary workshops of the good old days. It was about this period that many abortive attempts at so-called welfare work were started. These in most cases failed to make any real contribution to the better understanding of labor and capital. The effort was established on purely paternalistic lines, was imposed upon the group of workers without their desire or consent, and all too frequently furnished that for which they had no real need. . . . The whole welfare structure was weak. Is it any wonder then that welfare work and industrial betterment came into disrepute, and were



COMPARATIVE MORTALITY OF THE CRADLE AND THE TRENCH.

continually and effectively used by the labor agitator in stirring up antagonism?

"But employee's service work of the kind done by the industrial physician rests upon an entirely different basis, for its foundation is economically sound, and from day to day it will pay dividends in reducing lost time from accidents and illness, in reduced labor turnover, in increased loyalty. . . . . . .

"But what is the beginning of the industrial physician's service? It is intensive health work. He seeks to build up healthy bodies, and these in turn promote right thinking, right living, good habits; and from these come intelligence, stability, and loyalty. Unless we have these qualities in the working force, our employment departments will continue to struggle with the labor turnover, our mutual benefit societies and loan associations, our restaurants, our cooperative buying, our sanitary measures—all will meet with but half of the deserved success.

"Thus the point of approach to the human potential on the part of the industrial physician is through the shop dispensary. Under a high-grade, socially minded physician it will be the great melting-pot of the human experience of men. Here virtues and weaknesses will be made apparent. The physician will become father confessor. From him the employees will learn that it pays to be healthy, steady, and of good habits. Such a physician will not hesitate to preach sobriety."

Not only will industrial dispensaries lessen disease and multiply working-days as well as working capacity, but they will increase the money available for medical service in the families of the workers. This, Dr. Geier tells us, is one of the community benefits. It adds a new arm to the health department and makes possible preventive medicine on an undreamed scale. He says:

"Some time ago my own city was threatened with an epidemic of grippe. Immediate steps were taken in the plant under my charge to examine the men who showed symptoms of colds and to adopt preventive measures. The absence from work in the plant only reached about 3 per cent. The average for some other shops in the same city where preventive work was not done reached 10 per cent.

"The Norton Company, of Worcester, Mass., records a reduction of 75 per cent. in time lost on account of illness since the establishment of its medical department. . . . . . .

"Another part of the work of the industrial physician is the sanitary control of the working-plant. The importance of this supervision needs only to be mentioned to be appreciated. The proper upkeep of the sanitary utilities; the heating, lighting, and ventilating of the building; the care of wash-rooms and locker-rooms — all these are intimately connected with the physical well-being of the working force. In this connection, also, the matter of drinking-water must not be overlooked, for the employer's liability to supply pure water has been frequently established by law.

"Investigation will often show that the food procurable by employees for their lunch is far from being of satisfactory quality. The average restaurant or café in an industrial section is not inviting and its food is too often poorly selected and improperly cooked. Here is work that very properly belongs to the industrial physician. Through his oversight local eating-places may be induced to supply better food, or if the plant operates a restaurant of its own, he can not only watch over the quality of food served, but give many valuable hints to employees as to changes in diet for the benefit of their health.

"When we come to the question of service work among the families of employees we are on debatable ground. In a few instances plants have visiting nurses and even visiting housekeepers. That there is a possibility for doing such work in the spirit of increasing the human potential in industry no one can deny, but it should only be inaugurated when the management is convinced that it can be carried on with the full cooperation of the employees themselves. With an improper motive such work is getting dangerously near paternalism, altho the socially minded industrial physician is often called upon to give advice and counsel in regard to family matters. . . . . . .

"Finally, this entire problem of the health of the working force is a responsibility resting upon American industrial managers. Whether or not it is developed to its possibilities depends upon them. The physician in industry can make a great contribution toward increasing the human potential; the industrial dispensary can be made a great human laboratory; the results of this labor-maintenance service can be the building up of men and the hastening of the coming of a time of better understanding between workers and managers."

THE CRADLE MORE FATAL THAN THE TRENCH

WHICH WOULD YOU RATHER BE, a new-born babe or a soldier in the trenches? In which condition would your chances of living a year be greater? This sounds like a foolish question, says G. E. Earnshaw in *The Infants' Department* (Chicago). One would naturally suppose that a baby, sheltered in the home and tended constantly by loving hands, would have a better chance of living than a soldier in active service. And yet the contrary is true. The perils of shot and shell, of bayonet thrusts and bursting hand-grenades, of disease from exposure or infection—all these exact a toll of life considerably less than that paid by the nurseries. Says Mr. Earnshaw:

"Let us compare the losses. In a statement recently made public, Newton D. Baker, Secretary of War, says: 'Up to June 1 the losses of the British expeditionary forces from deaths in action and deaths from wounds were about 7 per cent. of the total of all the men sent to France since the beginning of the war.' The war began three years ago, hence this total loss of 7 per cent 'since the beginning of the war' means a yearly loss of but little more than 2 per cent.

"The accuracy of this statement is strikingly confirmed by the published statement of an English insurance company—the London Prudential—which shows that out of a total of two million British soldiers insured, the losses during the present war have amounted to 30 per 1,000 per annum; but since the deaths in times of peace among men of the same age amount to 10 per 1,000 per annum, we must deduct the normal mortality (10 per 1,000) from the war-losses (30 per 1,000), leaving war responsible for only twenty deaths a year in each group of 1,000 men in service. Twenty deaths per 1,000 is two deaths per 100, or 2 per cent., as stated by Secretary Baker. This is the toll of war.

"Let us see now what happens in the nurseries. Out of every seven babies born one dies before it is a year old. One in seven is more than 14 in the hundred. So the soldier braving disease and death in the camp and on the battle-field has a seven times better chance of life than the new-born baby.

"Out of 2,500,000 babies born every year in the United States more than 350,000 die before they are a year old. Of the same number of soldiers only 50,000 will die in a year as a result of their exposure to the risks of war.

"Terrible as is the toll of life exacted by war the losses suffered by our infant population through improper foods and clothing, the ignorance of midwives, and—alas!—of mothers also, is yet more terrible. To our shame be it said that our soldiers on the field of battle are safer than our infants in their cradles.

"It is not possible, of course, to save the life of every little one that is born; but infant-welfare experts estimate that at least 50 per cent. of the deaths are preventable. This is proved by the fact that in other countries the death-rate in the first year of life has been reduced to less than half the death-rate in the United States. Also, by the fact that in certain cities in the United States infant mortality has been reduced to a point that is less than half the average for the whole country."

It might be added, of course, that every soldier has to pass both the perils of the cradle and the trench, since every soldier has first to be a baby, while every baby does not necessarily become a soldier, and hence may face but one of the two dangers.

LETTERS - AND - ART

THE SLOW AGONY OF REIMS

THE BLACKENED WALLS and broken statues of Reims Cathedral are "the most formidable indictment the Germans have yet raised against themselves," for no other assault has "accomplished such complete destruction of so great a work of art." Such a statement could hardly be disputed when the world is reminded that the siege of Reims has been continuous since September 3, 1914. When Reims drops out of the daily news it may be thought that some alleviation of her suffering has been allowed, but to show that this is not the case Mr. Barr Ferrie has published a little book called "The Bombardment of Reims." It is simply a chronology of the German operations at this point, and were it not for the tragic significance of the figures here collated the book might seem as dull as a volume of logarithmic tables. The first entry is for September 2, 1914, and is simply the matter-of-fact statement:

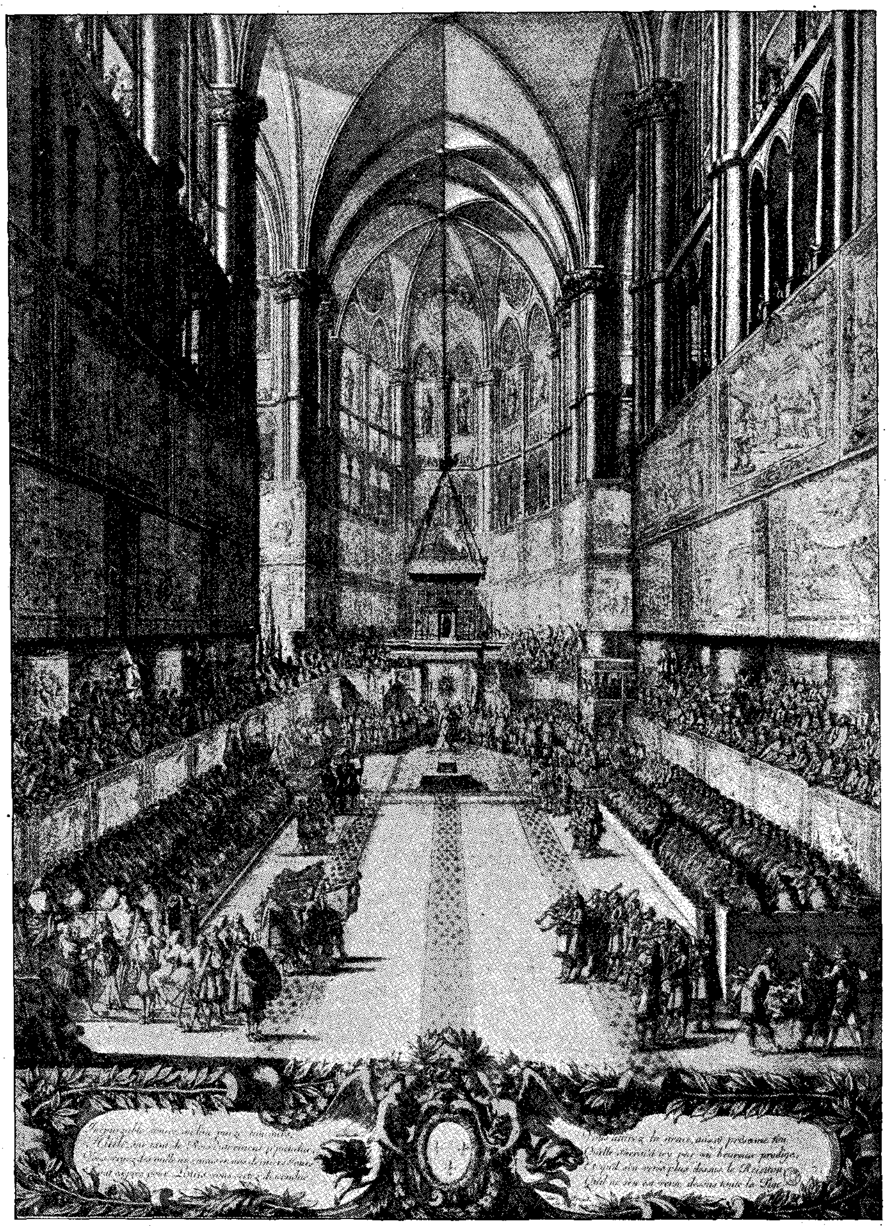
"French Army evacuated Reims in the night."

On September 3 an enemy "*Taube* dropt two bombs, 9:15 A.M.; Dr. Langlet, Mayor of Reims, issued proclamation announcing the approach of the Germans and urging calm. German officers enter Reims 8:30 P.M." The first bombardment occurred at 9:22 A.M. on the following day, with 176 shells dropt on the city. The record is one of "many killed and wounded; minor injuries to the Cathedral, glass broken; St. Remi and St. André injured; German troops enter in the afternoon; anniversary of the German occupation of 1870." From the 5th to the 12th the German occupation continued, when in the afternoon their troops evacuated the city and French officers appeared at 6:30 P.M. The French troops came back and on the 13th the last vespers in the Cathedral, in the chapel of the Cardinal, were held, when the "Te Deum" was sung for Benedict XV.

From now on the record reads like a witches' dance, with occasional days marked "calm" to emphasize the fury and the folly of those when shells fell on the city without rime or reason. Thus in December, 1914, we read:

1. Intermittent bombardment.
2. Bombardment, 10 A.M.
3. Bombardment 9 A.M., two or three shells.
4. *Taube* 11:30 A.M.; bombardment, 1:30 to 8 P.M.
5. Bombardment 3:30 A.M to noon.
6. *Taube* dropt three bombs, 11 A.M.
7. Bombardment 5 to 6 P.M., 40 shells.
8. Bombardment 1 to 3 P.M., 50 shells.
9. Bombardment in afternoon, 12 shells; renewed in evening, 6 shells.
10. Sharpnel morning and afternoon. . . . . . .
13. Bombardment 9:30 to 11 A.M., 50 shells. President Poincaré visited Reims. . . . . . .
17. *Taube* dropt bomb 9 A.M.; bombardment 11:10 A.M. to dawn, more than 200 shells at night, 2 killed, 9 wounded.

And so the record, carefully complied from Reims and Paris newspapers, traverses the ground up to September 3, 1917. One is left to expend one's imagination over the variations in time and temper of assaults where military advantage must be unlooked for. Three times such a witches' Sabbath as this is recorded:



From "Les Arts," Paris.

REIMS IN HER GLORY.

The Cathedral was the scene of the coronation of the French kings, such as is depicted in this reproduction of an eighteen-century print. The famous tapestries seen hanging on the walls were fortunately removed in time from the reach of predatory hands.

March, 1917.
27. Kaiser's birthday. Bombardment 11 A.M. to 5 P.M., 77 shells; renewed 9 P.M.

In the introduction to the volume, Mr. Ferrie observes that "a mere glance at the daily record shows that, until March,

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1917, no definite purpose was behind this bombardment." Further:

"It was continued for two years and a half for no other purpose than to annoy the French. Else why these daily bombardments of a few shells only, these days of calm or of little doing, these spurts of agony, bringing sudden death or useless destruction, only to be followed by lapses into silence? Had the destruction of Reims been seriously undertaken it might, I suppose, have been accomplished long since. But it pleased the enemy to irritate rather than to destroy; a little harm day by day, a little annoyance, more or less, spread over a considerable period of time, with occasional outbursts of great violence, this was the program. Or, more dreadful still, when the German forces met with defeat, the guns were opened afresh on the helpless Cathedral, that it might be wounded again for disasters it had in no sense been party to. While doubtless all this has been thoroughly understood by the French military authorities, little was known of it to the outside world, for little that went on at Reims was known anywhere. There were many other and more important things in the Great War that affected the future of France and of the world. Humanity held its breath while the heroic battle of Verdun was in progress, because it was a military event of the first magnitude. But so little has been heard of Reims that a revelation of its daily martyrdom must come as a shock to those who have closely followed the war.

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WHAT WAS ONCE YPRES CATHEDRAL.

The mangled "West Front" lifts itself above the shattered body of the old church. This British official photograph shows how she keeps watch by night over what is left of this Belgian shrine.

"The story presented from the month of March, 1917, is quite different from anything that preceded. Very obviously the foolish game of play-war was abandoned, and a real effort made to accomplish the destruction of the city. The mind pales before the needless horrors of these months, so inefficiently indicated by a record of continuous and continued bombardment. So full of horror has been this time that the local papers speak of a daily fall of 600 shells, or even 1,000 shells, as a welcome relief from days just passed!

"And the Cathedral. That, of course, is the one central, overpowering thing that excites the interest of the world in the bombardment of Reims. This is not so with the unfortunate people of Reims, who have seen their loved ones killed, their houses ruined, their occupations gone, and who have suffered daily privation and martyrdom. Reims is not alone among the cities and districts of France in such horrors, but its Cathedral is one of the treasures of the world, and in this war of great crimes no greater crime has been attempted than the destruction of this splendid church.

"Three years ago its vast bulk and massive towers rose grandly above its surrounding buildings in all the pride of lasting permanency. For seven hundred years these stones had cried aloud to the glory of God and the supreme genius of its French builders and decorators. France—that treasure-house of architectural masterpieces—had no more noble building than this, so dear to the French people by reason of the supremacy of its art and as the coronation church of their kings, and once the emblem and the expression of their nationality.

"In its present dismantled, battered, more than half-ruined state, the Cathedral of Reims is of all the unnecessary sacrifices in the war the most unnecessary. It has been too great and too good a thing to disappear from the world without leaving an empty place that can not be filled. Once, in far back September, 1914, the merciless barbarian encamped before its holy portals. There he stayed for nine days, and, leaving in haste, presently bombarded it, so that his own wounded, temporarily placed within it for safety, were burned alive under the protecting flag of the Red Cross. A pitiable comment on his regard for great churches and the well-being of the wounded.

"Since then—September 12, 1914, to be exact—no good news has come out of Reims. Yet of this we may be certain: devoted as the French are to their great national church, they will gladly sacrifice it utterly if that sacrifice be required to thrust out the barbaric invading hordes that know only hate of the good, the true, the beautiful."

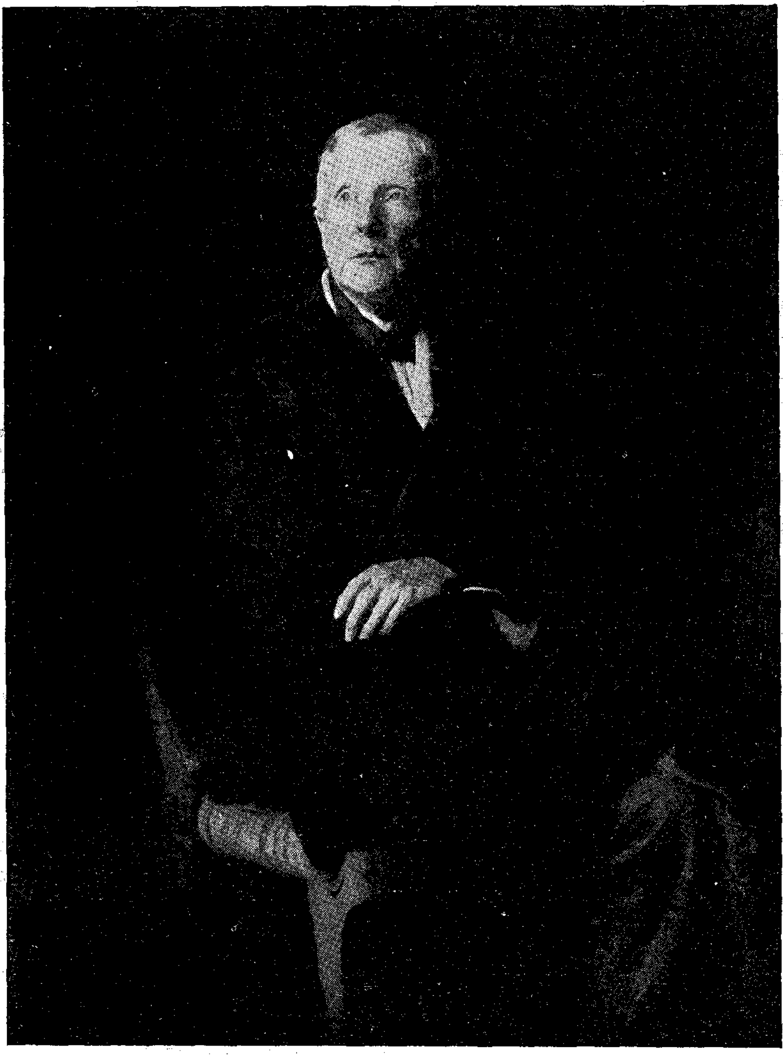
CENTURY-OLD GIFT-BOOKS—The holiday book-stalls are said to have felt the shadow of war over their heads. There were books a-plenty, but the buyers were cautious. Mr. George H. Sargent, writing in the Boston *Transcript*, wonders whether at the close of this century "we will find ourselves looking backward at the holiday books of to-day as we now look upon those of the early days of the last century." Will there be the same feeling of disdain for our treasures that we now show for the "Keepsakes" and "Forget-me-nots"? Mr. Sargent writes:

"One wonders what has become of the 'Elegant Presents' which were advertised nearly a hundred years ago in the booksellers' catalogs. Here were 'The Myrianthea or numberless groups of changeable Flowers'; 'The Hellenicorama,' of Grecian views; the 'Arcorama, a View in Regent's Park,' or the 'Naturama, or, Nature's Endless Transposition of Views on the Thames.' The last-named consisted of eighteen views, which, separately, formed correct views of towns or noble mansions, yet were so contrived as to produce, by transposition, a series of landscapes in infinite variety.

The announcement likewise states that one peculiar novelty in the management of the respective views 'is a movable scene of the Pope in his Grotto, by which is added a rich background of mechanical perspective: and is intended not only as an amusement, but also to assist students in drawing from Nature, and particularly to excite ingenuity and invention in the art.' The price of this original 'moving picture' was only $6.50, but it is safe to say that a copy in the auction-room to-day could not be purchased at that price. Then there was another work which was sold at the low price of $3. 'Mimical Ladies and Gentlemen in a Case.' Further details are not given, and as no copy has appeared in the auction-room or in modern catalogs, one is left to speculate whether the 'case' was a divorce case or a legal case or simply a pasteboard affair.

"Dissected maps were then very popular, and there were all sorts of dissected prints and games of geography, history, etc., 'calculated to promote improvement and amuse a friendly party or to impart information in the minds of both sexes.' Things of a similar character there are to-day, but those that are noted in the catalog of a hundred years ago seem to have been lost to mortal ken."

ART AND THE LIFE OF TO-DAY



MR. SARGENT'S OWN JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER.

This portrait is said to have been painted by the artist for his own possession. Another version of the same subject earned for the painter $50,000, which he gave to the Red Cross Fund. Mr. Cortissoz sees the above picture as setting the note of the Winter Academy—"a solid bit of prose, adequate, yet without a trace of inspiration."

ART "WITH AN ACCENT of contrast from practical affairs," is the popular tone of the man in the streets. Art will do for piping times of peace, but such affairs as war, with other exigencies only less hazardous to physical safety, demand sterner interests. Such a view, the New York *Evening Sun* complains, was stated with "implied approval" by an artist recently, but he immediately "proceeded to demolish his own fallacy, the débris of which was blown away by another speaker in a burst of eloquence "that left his hearers gasping." Lieut. Henry Reuterdahl was the man guilty of this about-face, for his first declaraction was that "any art endeavor is futile now except for recruiting or camouflage." It was not long, in the course of his address at the School Art League luncheon, before he heaped scorn on "the absurdly inappropriate frame that was made by American artizans to display a great recruiting poster by Brangwyn." What he further said and what the other speakers were led to say from his point of departure put in a nutshell the whole problem of the relation of art to every-day concerns. Mr. Reuterdahl contrasted the Brangwyn incident with the fact that—

"While he was waiting for America to get into the war he himself had taken a complete course in lithography at the London County Council schools for a fee of $2.50! He spoke of the importance of photoengraving as a condition of reproducing pictures for the million; yet there is not a school in America where photoengraving is taught. And he closed with these words:

"'When the American flag is victorious between the tricolor and the Union Jack there is going to be a renaissance. And for that we must prepare now.'

"The French poet who followed the American artist-officer did not hesitate to challenge his first utterance. 'The conception in Brittany,' said Anatole Le Bras, 'is not that art must be put aside while we are making the fight. Yes, the fight with the gun, the fight with the sword—that must be made. But there is another, a greater fight—the fight for beauty. It is the true fight for civilization. When you have put beauty in every brain, in every heart, in every soul, you will have no other fight. The condition of beauty forbids war. For beauty is harmony.'

"Le Bras told how the art schools of Brittany were kept full. All the boys of fighting age have gone to war, but their places are filled by girls. More than one of the artists who are at the front—those who have not given their lives—have had 'a new soul born' in them. As proof of that the speaker cited 'Lettres d'un Soldat,' by a young painter, Le Mercier.

"Another young painter was described as one who had more than a love, a passion, it was very 'drunkenness for color.' When he returned from service, Le Bras went to his studio. 'I saw coming toward me,' he said, 'a young ruin.' The painter was blind. In the vivid interest of the artist's talk, this fact was forgotten. When the visitor remembered and began to express sympathy, the artist stopt him. 'Don't pity me,' he cried. 'When the eyes of one artist are closed what does it matter? The light of art, the light of beauty, will burn forever.'"

Mere words, if they had come from the lips of a mere rhetorician, says the writer in *The Evening Sun*. But he continues: "The young artist and the France he truly represents have earned the right to say them. The world is bound to listen. For this war has made it clear, if it needed new proof, that love of beauty, devotion to art, may be as essentially an element in the very life of a nation as more direct expression of patriotism. French art and French love of country are inseparable." Further testimony from France was forthcoming:

"Another speaker, Caro-Delvaille, who had himself been serving at the front, exprest the view that a return to apprenticeship rather than school-training would open the way to the new life which Reuterdahl had said would come after the war. 'With discipline,' he said, 'comes freedom—spontaneity led by the will.'

"There was no real disagreement between these views. The art for which the American said we have no room now is the pseudo-art for which there is never any room in a great age. For art about which men and women are as desperately in earnest as they have to be about war there is always room."

If one wonders where about now America stands in the way of art, Mr. Cortissoz in the New York *Tribune* points to the Winter Academy, whose show is now open:

"When the Association of American Painters and Sculptors got up their vast exhibition at the Armory, five years ago, its principal service seemed to be that of stirring up stagnant waters. It brought a number of the newer movements into view. From this Salon of the Independents a certain rather heady influence seemed bound to flow. As has been frequently enough noted in these columns, that influence has produced some queer results, paintings and sculptures chiefly remarkable for a kind of fatuous crudity, but we have never been able to regard these as having any serious bearing on the situation. They are passing phenomena, like Kipling's mosquito-worm in a tank,

> and exert no measurable effect upon American art. What appeared possible as an outcome of the armory exhibition was a little change in the broad atmosphere of our school, a little dusting and shaking of old ideas, a stimulation of personality. But just there the experiment seems to have broken down. The Academy, for example, is to-day precisely what it was, in essence, five years ago. The impression we receive is of a company of painters content with the old laws. They make their answer here to all the new movements, to the whole spirit of 'modernism.' It is that conservatism suits them best. The most sympathetic test of their performances is that which refers only to technique as it is practised in the schools.
>
> "Mr. Sargent sets the pace in the domain of portraiture. He sends his second portrait to Mr. Rockefeller . . . a solid bit of prose, adequate, yet without a trace of inspiration. That is the note throughout all the portraiture in what we might call the official category."

NEW YORK SCHOOL HOUSECLEANING

ENEMY ALIENS ARE TEACHING in New York public schools, admits the supervisor of foreign languages, Mr. John L. Huelshof, and the process of elimination has begun. The Board of Education dismissed from the service the three DeWitt Clinton High School teachers whose cases were considered in our issue of December 8. Their action meets with both approval and disapproval. These men are not defined as "enemy aliens," but were found gulity on the technical charge of "holding views subversive of discipline and of undermining good citizenship." In sympathetic quarters their sentence is called "a lynching on unsupported charges." The New York *Evening Post*, trying to be impartial, observes that "the verdict seems to have been rendered on very much the same grounds that inspired the undergraduate's attitude to the celebrated Dr. Fell." Yet it admits that "the mere fact that three-fourths of the Board do not like a teacher might be presumptive evidence of his unfitness." Chairman Willcox, of the Board, and Professor Giddings, of Columbia College, also a Board member, said there was "no charge of disloyalty against the teachers." In the case of Samuel Schmalhausen, it is said that his penciled marginal notes on a letter written by a schoolboy attacking the President showed "not the slightest reaction indicating outraged honor, tending to show that the Government had been assailed in a critical time." A. Henry Schneer was impugned for publishing a school bibliography with objectionable poetical quotations after the titles of the books. Thomas Mufson refused to answer questions at the trial, and drew from Professor Giddings the declaration that he would vote "for the discharge of any man capable of such mulish conduct." Mr. Thomas Churchill, counsel of the teachers, declared that he was "convinced of the sincerity of each of them in relation to the carrying on of the war, the Liberty Loan, and other matters on which they were questioned." A request for delay in the decision of the cases was received signed by eleven instructors of Columbia College, including John Dewey, James Harvey Robinson, David Snedden, Carlton H. Hayes, W. P. Montague, Thomas Powell, H. A. Overstreet, W. T. Bush, N. P. Mead, M. R. Cohen, A. J. Goldfarb, and J. P. Turner. The New York *Evening Post* prints an address of Professor Dewey delivered at the DeWitt Clinton High School in a meeting called to consider the charges against the teachers. We quote a passage in which he points to a "dangerous tendency" in our methods showing that "to defeat Prussianism abroad," we seem "to establish Prussianism at home."

> "I happened to have had put in my hands to-day a transcript of the evidence and proceedings of the trials of the three men who are under suspension. I have had time enough to make a reasonably thorough study of that document. . . . I wish to say simply something about the methods of conducting the public schools of New York City as herein demonstrated with reference to the treatment of teachers. The first is that a teacher at the present time is subject to discipline, and discipline of a serious kind, to dismissal and on the basis of charges so vague that there is no court of law in which they would have the slightest standing. Our forefathers have had to fight, and I believe they put up a good fight. I am not a pacifist myself, and would fight for the right of individuals in society to a hearing in courts that had an orderly method of procedure. I do not think all the technicalities of indictment are necessary, but at least those technicalities are demanded which cover individuals from loose accusations. In so far as this case is an example, we have not secured to our teachers those ordinary civic rights.
>
> "I only know that after reading the testimony, in voting, I would not know what I should have voted on. I have Mr. Tildsley's public statement that the teachers are not disloyal; the newspapers have published that they were disloyal, and if nine out of ten persons of average intelligence in the street were asked they would say the teachers were disloyal. If teachers can be suspended under a condition where it can be said they are and are not disloyal, these teachers have not got the rights of a fair hearing which everywhere else in the life of a citizen they have the right to before being held guilty. These teachers are not under trial for acts of any kind. They are under accusations. Mind you, I do not say there were not any acts, I merely say that they were not accused of any acts, but, so far as the evidence brought against them is concerned, there is absolutely nothing but charges about their private views and private opinions; and those views and opinions were not exprest within any school, but were brought out, taking it at their worst, taking it at Mr. Tildsley's and Mr. Paul's statements, in a purely private personal hearing. I don't know what this is called in 1917, but I know what it used to be called. It used to be called the Inquisition. I am not given to taking at their face value statements made by a lawyer in the course of a legal trial, but when Mr. Smyth said the following, I believe it is the literal truth: 'It is something comparable to the old Salem witchcraft trials, that persons who are supposed to have views that are not in consonance with the views of the community are put on trial and asked supposititious questions, not as to what they had done, not as to what their duty required them to do, but taking a case that is not in point at all, what would you then do. . . . . . .'
>
> "If this thing were not serious, it would be one of the most humorous documents of the ages! But it is serious—not merely from the standpoint of these individuals, but because this shows what any and every teacher in the public-school system of the city of New York is subject to to-day, and that is a serious matter."

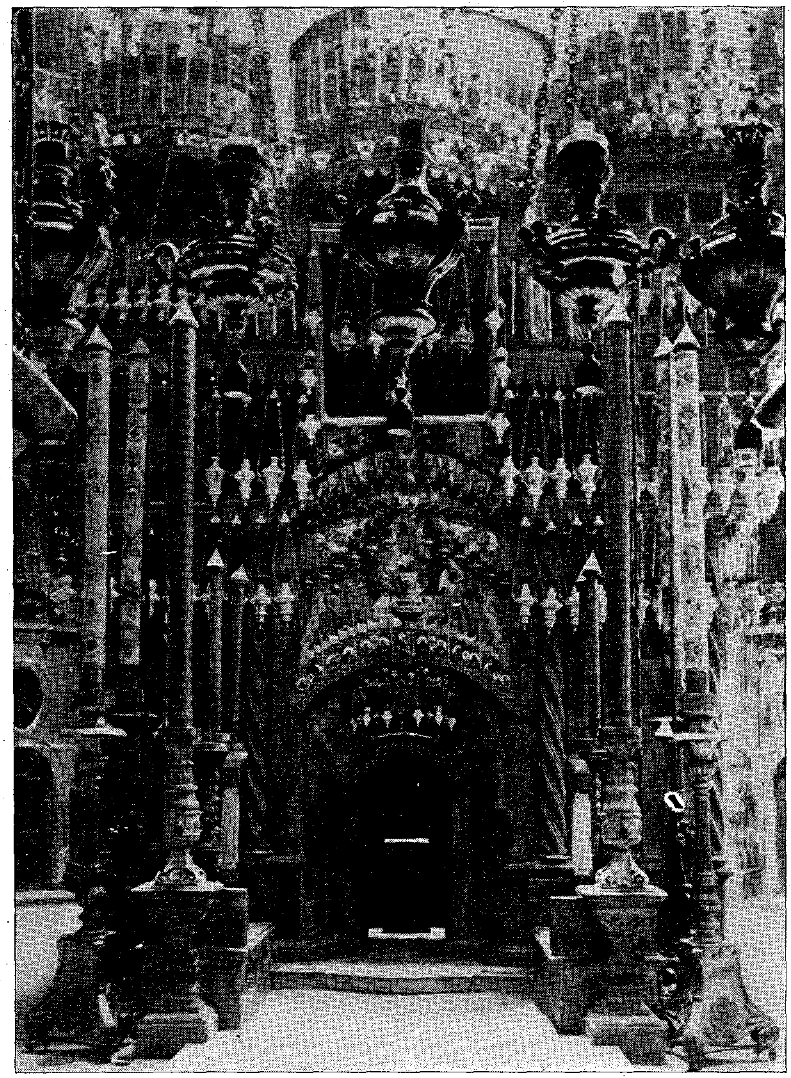
Since the suspended teachers have given notice that they will "reopen the matter by certiorari proceedings," the New York *Tribune* does not lament that they will have their day in court. Meantime it brings forward another view of their case:

> "The plain fact is that these teachers belong to a certain class of citizens, small but tremendously large vocally, who seem able to see all the faults of the United States and its course in the war and events leading up to it, but to have had astigmatism when they looked at the enemy. Quite possibly they said and did nothing 'treasonable.' Quite possibly they remained within the letter of the law. Yet the question existed whether they were desirable members of the teaching force of this great city, and that question was, and was bound to be, bigger than technicalities of phrase in answering questions or of refusal to answer any. Freedom of speech had nothing to do with it—the issue was one of obligation, of duty to the city and nation which gave them freedom, protection, and livelihood, rather than of abstract privileges. What the Board of Education was called on to decide was whether they had been as loyal to the United States as a soldier in the trenches would be expected to be. If not, that body had the authority of the State Commissioner of Education, assuredly not an illiberal or autocratic man, for declaring that wherever they belonged it was not in the schools.
>
> "This action of the Board of Education is a wholesome precedent. There is every reason to believe that among the teachers there is not only tacit disloyalty, but active sympathy for the enemies of the United States. How either brand of opinion would be treated in Germany everybody knows. The United States does not want, or need, to Prussianize itself; but there is needed a stern repression of half-baked theorizing, anarchist tendencies masked under the guise of 'free criticism,' and a Bolshevik attitude toward the Government."

RELIGION-AND-SOCIAL-SERVICE

RIFLING THE TOMB OF THE SAVIOR

THE NEW RELIGION held by the Germans was illustrated in a forceful manner in some of the by-products of the fall of Jerusalem. The Kaiser's art collection, growing by depredations on the Western front, received a notable accession in the loot of the monstrance, set with brilliants, from the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. This was only part, but perhaps the most notable of the treasure taken from the World's Holy Place, which, so says the official dispatch, has "remained unmolested heretofore during all the centuries of Moslem occupation of Jerusalem." The treasure was taken from the church by the Turks; but doubtless, if Berlin chooses to inform the world, we shall hear of "art experts" accompanying the army who have removed the priceless jewels of the altar "to insure their safety." That they would have been endangered in their age-long abode by the new captors of the Holy City one may judge from the conduct of the British forces in the storming of Bethlehem. "It would be interesting to hear the comments of the German generals, and of the German lieutenants," observes the New York *Times*, "when they hear —if they ever do—that the British in Palestine are so little appreciative of 'military necessity' that when attacking the Turks they sometimes have refrained from the usual artillery preparation because it would have destroyed structures and sites held in reverence by considerable numbers of people." Further:



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THE SHRINE OF THE HOLY SEPULCHER.

This room in Jerusalem has been the object of pilgrimage for centuries by both the Moslem and Christian, and priceless gifts in jeweled lamps and other ornaments have been accumulating through ages. The Turks, under German direction, have now despoiled this sacred place.

> "That must seem a reason strange indeed to the men who have kept up for many months an almost continuous bombardment of the Cathedral at Reims, partly because they themselves would have used it as an observation-post and partly because thus they could avenge reverses suffered along the Western front. That they would aim their guns as readily at Jerusalem or Bethlehem if military advantage were to be gained or hoped, in all probability the Germans would scorn to deny, and the Turkish soldiers, all more or less controlled by German officers, did not hesitate to invite bombardment of the sacred structures by firing their own cannon and machine guns from them.
>
> "The British did not reply in kind. They preferred to win at greater cost for the sake of sparing the sensibilities of the followers of the three great religions."

Stealing jewels was only a part of the rear-guard action, as we further learn from the official dispatch emanating from Washington and printed in the press. Before surrendering Jerusalem the Turks "brutally mistreated Christian priests. . . . Monsignor Camassei, the Patriarch of Jerusalem, is said to have been deposed from his office, and Father Piccado, an Italian priest, to have died from the effects of Turkish brutalities." The dispatch tells of indignation among the Mussulmans of Asia Minor over the action of a German general in establishing staff headquarters in the Great Mosque of the City of Aleppo, near the Syrian border. In explaining the associational value of the "Holy Treasure," the New York *Times* speaks of—

> "That which is of intrinsic value, from the silver fence erected by Constantine to enclose the grave of Adam to the precious gifts brought by pilgrims, and that which is venerated as 'true relics' from the 'Stone of Unction' on which the body of Jesus is said to have lain when it was anointed by Nicodemus, to pieces and nails of the cross."

The New York *Sun* views these acts in the light of the new gospel of *Kultur:*

> "No commander except a Turk corrupted by Prussian overlords would loot the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. If any man suggested to General Allenby, the conqueror of Jerusalem, that he should remove from the church its sacred vessels to send to King George, he would be expelled from the camp; if an insane man should gather them up and escape with them to France, or Italy, or Petrograd, or Japan, or to any of the other countries arrayed against Germany, he would be punished, and they would be returned."

THE BELGIAN CHILDREN'S FUND

AN ACCOUNT OF OUR STEWARDSHIP

All readers of The Literary Digest will be pleased to see the following statement of its account with the BELGIAN CHILDREN'S FUND. Especially will Digest readers who have contributed to that Fund find satisfaction in the fact that it has been duly audited, and certified as correct. It was through the generosity of these contributing readers that The Digest could send more than a half million dollars to Belgium's neediest, serving thus the cause of humanity by saving hungry human lives. Here is the exact showing of our stewardship:

	Total amount acknowledged in The Digest of June 16, 1917		$563,056.65
Add:	Amount received since last statement in Digest, acknowledged to contributors but not acknowledged in Digest		2,039.12
			$565,095.77
Deduct:	Amount pledged by Digest readers to be paid in monthly instalments (and so acknowledged in The Digest), which had not yet matured for payment, and collection of which was stopt by order of Mr. Herbert C. Hoover, *chairman* of the Commission for Relief in Belgium, in his letter of May 25, 1917, when Government assistance was granted to the Commission		18,261.50
			$546,834.27
Add:	Bank interest	$1,058.56	
	Less: Collection charges	237.36	
		$821.20	
Deduct:	Part acknowledged in Digest of April 14, 1917, and included in amount $563,056.65 above	446.72	374.48
			$547,208.75
	Remitted to the Commission for Relief in Belgium:		
	March 8, 1917	$300,000.00	
	May 10, 1917	200,000.00	
	July 27, 1917	47,208.75	$547,208.75

We have examined the books of account and records of The Literary Digest Belgian Children's Fund from January 12, 1917, to July 30, 1917, and find the total contributions, including bank interest, less collection charges as above, were $547,208.75.

This sum was collected by the publishers of The Literary Digest without any expense to the Fund for postage or publicity, for clerical service, or other overhead charges of any kind, the publishers thus redeeming their promise of a 100 per cent. charity; and the entire amount was expended strictly in accordance with the announcement made by them when inviting contributions.

In addition to the above sum The Literary Digest has received from July 28 to December 6, 1917, subscriptions aggregating $4,294.94, also remitted to the Commission, acknowledgment of these subscriptions being made direct to the individual subscribers, and the money being used for the beneficiaries of this Fund.

THE COMMISSION FOR RELIEF IN BELGIUM,
Per Edward J. Williams, Assistant Treasurer.

A CATHOLIC ADMONISHES CATHOLICS

AMERICAN CATHOLICS have furnished over one-third of the American Army, tho adherents of the Catholic Church constitute but one-sixth of the population. In pointing out this fact, the Rev. Joseph McMahon, pastor of the Catholic Church of Our Lady of Lourdes, in New York, took occasion to emphasize the loyalty of American Catholics since our entrance into the war, tho there was "divergence as to the moral questions involved" before the struggle began. "Unfortunately," he is reported by the New York *Times* to have said, "there are men who can not forget racial and religious prejudice." He spoke of a priest who had written him a letter in which he lamented that he had ever become a citizen of the United States, "forgetting that no one compelled him to do so, and that the sea was open for his return." Father McMahon's words, uttered before the Catholic Library Association, are said to have made a profound effect upon Catholics of New York. Speaking of those who had taken the side of Germany "with no regard for the right or justice of the cause of the Allies," he continues:

> "Imagine the harm that these few would do if they were not restrained by prudence and the Secret Service. But these cases are only sporadic, and do not represent the Catholics in this country."

Father McMahon regards as one of the saddest things in the war the attitude of the German Catholics who, before the war, had condemned the very crimes of militarism which they now attempt to justify as military necessities. "What happened in Germany," he affirms, "is that a gentle and lovable people, as the South German Catholics are, cut off from the Vatican, submitted to the influence of the German Government. The Central Catholic party in Germany was won over to the militaristic cause by flattery and bribery. It submitted to expediency and ceased to be Catholic." The attitude of Irish Catholics is even more forcibly dealt with:

> "Great harm was done to the Belgian refugees in England by the influence of the Irish priests who, overcome by their hatred of England, told them that they were fools to oppose the Germans in their invasion, that the Germans were the true friends of little nations, and that England had entered the war to become the ruler of the world."

Father McMahon, as *The Times* further reports him, said that the same opinion prevailed among the Spanish Catholics, both the clergy and the laity. "For years an insidious propaganda has been spread through Spain by the Germans," he declared, "and coupling this with the hatred of the average Spaniard for heretical England and for France, the country they knew as atheistic, it is not hard to understand the attitude of Spain."

The priest of Our Lady of Lourdes urged the "assertion of the human conscience" among the Catholics of the world and the laying aside of compromise and expediency which had so often ruined the Catholic Church.

> “Is it not awful that religious and race prejudice among the Catholics has so dimmed the moral sense that it has become indifferent to the suffering of other people? Does it not indicate how foul and sordid are people who decide by race and religious prejudice? Let all this be done away with once and for all time. The glorious thing that has appeared in the war is the assertion of human conscience. It is wonderful that England, ruled by her ‘twopenny politicians,’ could rise to the height of sacrifice for a moral principle; that France, in spite of her vile rulers like Caillaux, and her dissipation, should have become the model for the whole world.”

DEFENDING THE RED CROSS

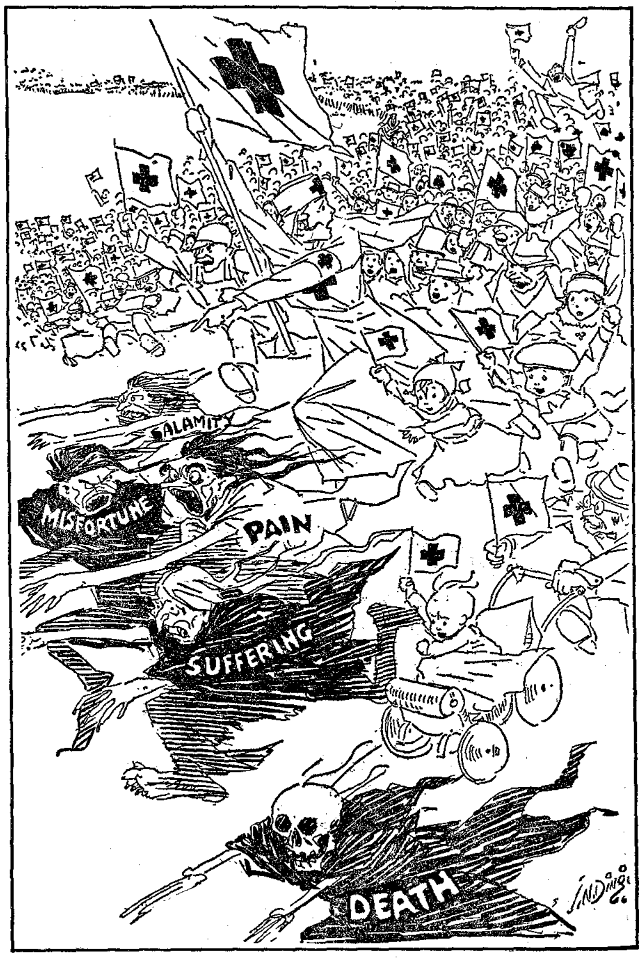
EVERY DOLLAR received by the Red Cross it spends for relief work—and a little more besides. This is not due to any special necromancy, but to the fact that most of the service in the organization is voluntary and the interest on the deposited funds more than meets the necessary expenses. This fact, with a great many others in answer to criticisms passed on the Red Cross, was stated by Mr. Henry P. Davison, the head of the American Society, at the New York Hippodrome, on Sunday, December 16.

His answer to censures made then is printed by the New York *Times* on December 23. He draws a picture of the expected effect in Germany of the 20,000,000 Red Cross members which Christmas ushers into their activities. The “big drive” was announced there in this way, he tells us: “It is reported that some fund, said to be $100,000,000, has been contributed to the Red Cross.” The Germans, he says, “visualized some six or eight men at a table chipping in the hundred million dollars as their personal contribution.” Their disillusion should come when they learn the table has 20,000,000 sitting around it. Each one of these members is pledged to protect the organization from the destructive propaganda now going about:

> “It is a German propaganda, and it is very prevalent and fervent in the East, more so than in the West, and it goes much like this: ‘Did you know that Mr. So-and-so told me last night that Mrs. So-and-so said that Mr. So-and-so had been told by Mrs. So-and-so such and such a thing about the Red Cross? Of course I did not believe it, but that is what he said.’
>
> “Now that is nothing more than German propaganda. It is going to be stopt, not because of any authority exercised by the Red Cross, but because the public are going to demand that it must stop. Whatever else anybody is going to do in this country, if the people know it, they are not going to contribute to German propaganda.
>
> “There is another criticism of the American Red Cross that is a thoughtless kind of criticism, and that also ought to be stopt, and the way to stop it is this: Somebody may say in very good faith that he is told such and such a thing is so. It is your duty to say to that person: ‘Do you know it is so? If you don’t, stop repeating it until you find out, and if you find out that it is so write a letter to the Red Cross. They will thank you for your letter.’
>
> “Do not make any mistake about it—the Red Cross not only permits, but urges, criticism when it is constructive and honest. But this idle talk going on is harmful, and it must be stopt.”

The catholicity of the organization is one not so well understood, and therefore subject to destructive criticism, of which this is a specimen:

> “Let me quote here, to illustrate some of the criticisms, a letter I had from a United States Senator, saying: ‘It grieves me greatly that you will not take Roman Catholics into responsible positions in your organization.’ I handed the letter to a member of the War-Council sitting at my side, John Ryan, and he handed it back. I handed it to my assistant on my left, Martin Egan, and he handed it back. Then I handed it to my little Irish-Catholic secretary, Foley, saying: ‘I will withdraw from the room, and you will telephone for the Senator.’
>
> “I had a letter from a very distinguished Jew, a friend of mine, who wrote: ‘I am sorry you don’t see fit to take important Jews into the organization of the Red Cross. It seems to me that many of them could be used.’ He named five men. I replied that I was exceedingly sorry that, as to those five, we could not take them, first, because we already had three of them, and then because we did not know the other two.
>
> “We can show you in the Red Cross as fine a collection of Baptists, Methodists, colored people, and every other kind of people there is on the face of the earth. As to German-Americans, I do not know any. There used to be some, and some of these who were then German-Americans have been and are as loyal friends of the Red Cross as any men we ever knew.
>
> “I want to say this: If you will show me a man or woman born in Germany, or born of parents born in Germany, who is as loyal and patriotic as we are, I will show you a man or woman that has severed home-heartstrings that we have not had to sever, and my hat is off to him or her. As to whether we help the Germans or not, the answer is ‘No!’ but if a wounded German or a wounded Turk falls within our lines he is treated just as tenderly and carefully as an American boy.”



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AN ARMY FOR EVERY ONE TO JOIN.

—Darling in the New York *Tribune*.

The Red Cross has not yet been called to minister to our wounded; but the work it is doing in France is just as surely work for the American forces as tho they got it directly. Mr. Davison shows how:

> “On the arrival of General Pershing we went to him and said, ‘What can we do for you?’ He said, ‘Thank you very much. If you really want to do something for me, for God’s sake buck up the French. They have been fighting for three years and are getting ready for their fourth winter, and if they are not taken care of nobody can tell what will happen to us.’
>
> “A French soldier of the devastated region, after being in the war-zone for four months, comes out for his ten days’ leave. His clothes are covered with vermin and torn; his shoes are out

of repair, and his spirits are low. He came out to go to his home. But he had no home; his home has been swept from the earth as clean as that floor, and his mother or his wife or his children had gone—he did not know where any more than you know.

"That Frenchman comes out of that trench, and he is met by your Red-Cross representative, and he is taken to a structure you have arranged; his clothes are taken from him and sterilized and mended. A bath and a hair-cut are given to him, and a shave if he needs it; if he has whiskers and wants them trimmed, they are trimmed. He gets three hours' or three days' rest. Then he is taken to the place where his home was, and there he finds a structure temporary in character which you have built for him, and within that structure he finds his mother or his wife or children, whom you have found for him.

"He finds them provided with food, with clothing, and with fuel. He spends his holiday, and then goes back to the trench. What effect do you suppose that has had on that French soldier? It has had the same effect upon that French soldier that it would have on you. Frenchmen are made of exactly the same kind of clay as we are made of. They are just as susceptible to encouragement or discouragement as we are. When he goes back to the trench he stands there a moment and says: 'Thank God the Americans are here. They are not yet ready in the line, but they are here to take care of the members of my family; they have found me and they will provide for them. I now have something to live for and something to fight for, and I will fight as long as I live.'

"When that man takes his place there, have you ever thought that he takes the place of one of our boys? If there is any break in that line, there is just one thing to stop it with, and that is Pershing's Army, prepared or unprepared. And so I submit that that is the way in which your Red Cross is directly saving the lives of your American boys."

Mr. Davison's survey covered the work done by the American Red Cross in Italy, Russia, Roumania, and elsewhere. Then, coming back to this country, he made the significant statement that "there is not a man or woman here who will ever outlive this war or the effects of it":

"Let us look forward a few months—I don't know how many. I can see that circle gathered in the parlor or in the shop, and there will be one there with one eye or no eyes, one there with one arm or no arm, one there with one leg or no legs, and they will be talking about one or two who are not there. Now I ask you what part in that conversation is the man or woman going to take who has not done everything in his or her power all the time for those boys while they were in hell for you and for me. I will tell you what part they are going to take. They are going to take no part. They are going to be strangers in their own land. The time has come when the man or woman is going to be measured not by money, not by name, not by family, but by service.

"You don't have to be a general; you don't have to wear a uniform, nor go to a foreign land. You may not have to get out of your chair, but what you have to do is to play this game all the time, and to do whatever is put up to you to do. You have to stand by the Administration. That does not mean that you can not criticize the Administration if you do it in a helpful way. You have to stand by the Y. M. C. A., the Y. W. C. A., the Knights of Columbus, the Red Cross, the Thrift Campaign, the Liberty Bond campaign.

"You are to do everything put up to you to the full measure of your power. This war is going to be won, but when it is going to be won and the cost of winning it are going to be decided, not in the trench, but by the people at home. The sooner we concentrate every ounce of power in our bodies to winning this war the sooner the war will be over. It is going to be over. There is going to be a meeting around a table known as a peace table. I visualize it in this way: We are operating to-day in France a large artificial-limb factory, which is turning out the best artificial limb known to modern science. We are building another in Italy. Wounded French people, in future years, are going to walk around on American limbs. Possibly the people of the world are going to walk around on American limbs or on that American spirit which the American people are now sending to Europe. I believe the very work the American Red Cross is doing for the peoples of the world is establishing a relationship among those peoples which will have a very marked effect on determining the character of the peace to be declared. And the work of the American Red Cross is going to make you and your children and your children's children, in whatever part of the world they may be, proud of being Americans."

At the same meeting Mr. Davison's work was characterized by Mr. Otto H. Kahn in words that Mr. Davison could not be expected to use:

"He has undergone fatigues and discomforts and heavy strain and hard wear of mind and body such as he was never called upon to undergo and would not have consented to undergo for any business or for any monetary reward. With his genius for organization, with his indefatigable zeal and driving power, and the force of his brain and personality, he, splendidly aided by his devoted fellow workers, has achieved a result which will make the American Red Cross a monument and a vastly impressive demonstration to the world, not only of American charity, but equally so of American efficiency and of American grandeur in planning and imagination."

THE NEW WOMAN IN THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

THE REVOLUTION in the status of women which the war, especially in England, has accelerated, is said to have affected the Church scarcely less than the state. The House of Commons in resolving to give women the Parliamentary vote has thrown upon the Church the necessity of being equally hospitable to women's participation. Of course, points out a writer in the London *Times*, "women have rendered the highest service to the Church's work, and many of its most important activities have been almost entirely dependent upon them." But as most of this service has been voluntary, "no doubt it has often been amateurish"; yet "its importance is unquestioned." The writer visions some very drastic changes which may, indeed, shake perhaps the foundation of so staid a body as the Church of England. We read:

"It is natural that the claim for the recognition of women in the organization of the Church should increase in volume and urgency; and now that a scheme for its self-government is recommended by an authoritative body, they must be expected to inquire into its provisions, in the hope that they might be given some voice in its affairs.

"The Archbishops' Committee's scheme for securing the Church's self-government has treated the claims of women lightly. According to its proposals, those who have the status of communicants, whether men or women, may vote for representatives to serve on the parochial church councils, and women are given a place on these, but not on any other church representative body. They are allowed no part in the Central Church Council; they may not be members even of the ruridecanal or diocesan conferences. This singular feature of the report, which must be due to oversight or fear or mere traditionalism, has rightly been criticized with some severity."

A noteworthy development took place last year in the formation of the Central Council of the National Mission, it is pointed out. To this a certain number of women were elected without challenge, and "every one acknowledges that they rendered extremely valuable service in the organization and work of the appeal to the nation during the autumn of last year," but—

"When the Council determined that women should be allowed under quite strict conditions to address women and girls in church so great an outcry was made that those bishops who had already given their permission to certain specially selected women to engage in this ministry felt compelled to withdraw it.

"A small section of women have declared their desire for much more than a place in the Church's councils, or permission to address women and children in consecrated buildings; they have asserted their right to the priesthood. This claim has served to deepen the suspicion or resentment felt in some quarters against every claim for recognition of women's right place in the organization of the Church, but the demand for the exercise of the priesthood need hardly be considered. At any rate, it is repudiated by most of the warmest advocates of women's right to a place in the Church's councils."

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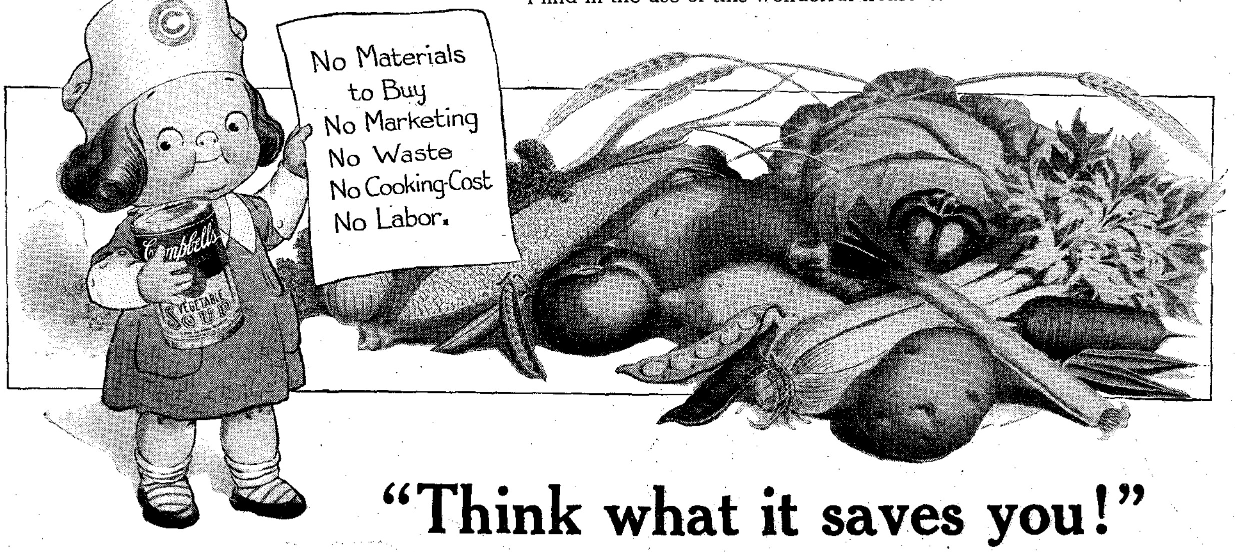

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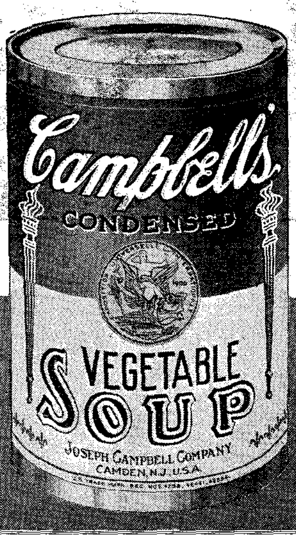

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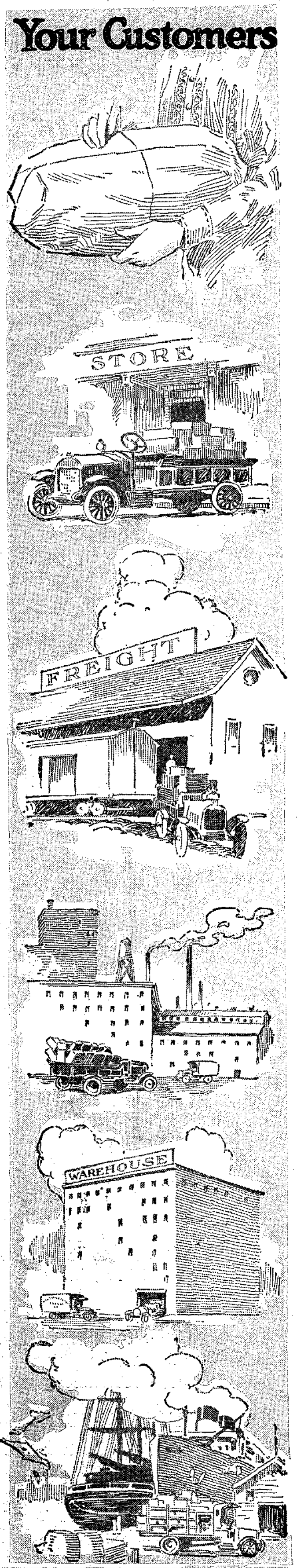

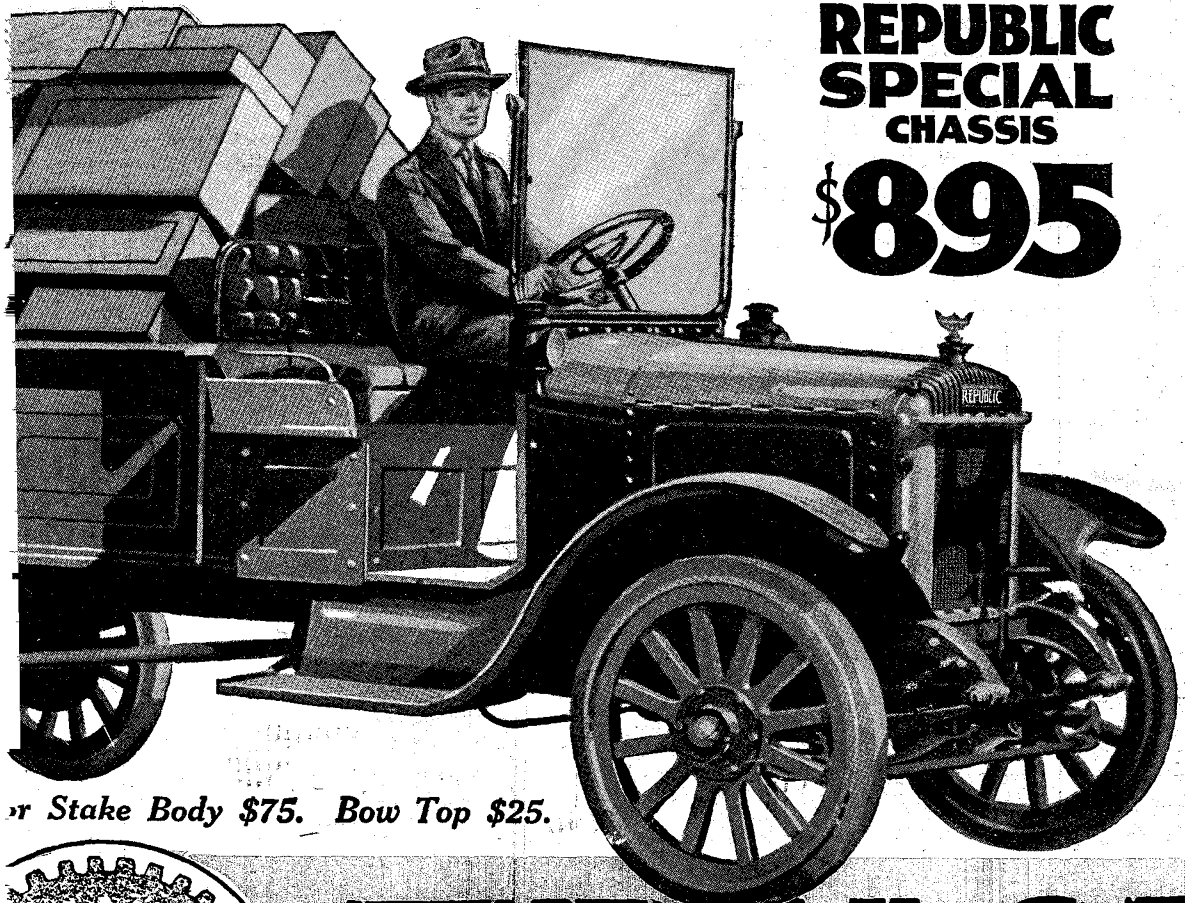

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CURRENT - POETRY

THAT the dreamer of dreams is ideally happy is a fallacy which not even the published lives of the poets seem to dispel. In a moving and admirably sustained allegory, Margaret Widdemer tells of the pains and perils which are the inevitable portion of the sincere creative artist. Yet, convincing as are these beautiful lines, they do not seem to be the final statement of the case. The sympathetic reader can not help feeling that the poet will sooner or later return to the sweet terrors of the Singing Wood. Prometheus, as a poet less gifted than Miss Widdemer has said, "would be tortured another eternity, to go stealing fire again." We quote "The Singing Wood" from *Contemporary Verse*.

THE SINGING WOOD

BY MARGARET WIDDEMER

I followed far from the roadway
After my golden ball
(How could I tell the way it went,
How it might stand or fall?)
And coaxing vines from the Singing Wood
Came twining around my feet,
And scent of flowers from the Singing Wood
Oh, it was sweet, was sweet!

Once I met a satyr,
Once I was with a faun,
Once I came by a woman o' doom
Spinning from dusk to dawn,
Once I followed a will-o'-the-wisp
Dancing along the fen—
Never the sun in the Singing Wood,
Never a bird-loud glen!

All the trees were sighing,
All of the brooks were tears,
All of the flowers were bleeding-hearts,
Scarlet with hopes and fears,
All of the vines were hands that clung
Twisting about my heart—
Oh, the thorns of the Singing Wood,
Sharp they can tear and smart!

I might have won to the rainbow's end,
But never for all o' me
Should I seek again in the Singing Wood
For any fair thing might be. . . .
Here on the earth are the day and night,
Human women and men,
And oh, it's good to be out of the wood,
Into the world again!

Curiously enough, some of the best sea-poems of the time have been written by women, and in *The Saturday Evening Post* we find these convincing verses:

THE CAPTIVE SHIPS AT MANILA

BY DOROTHY PAUL

Our keels are furred with tropic weed that clogs the crawling tides
And scarred with crust of salt and rust that gnaws our idle sides;
And little junks they come and go,
And ships they sail at dawn;
And all the outbound winds that blow
They call us to be gone,
As yearning to the lifting seas our gaunt flotilla rides,
Drifting aimless to and fro,
Sport of every wind a-blow,
Swinging to the ebb and flow
Of lazy tropic tides.

And once we knew the clean seaways to sail them pridefully;
And once we met the clean sea winds and gave them greeting free;
And honest craft, they spoke us fair,
Who'd scorn to speak us now;
And little craft, they'd not beware
To cross a German bow
When yet the flag of Germany had honor on the sea.
And now, of all that seaward fare,
What ship of any port is there
But would dip her flag to a black corsair
Ere she'd signal such as we!

Yet we are ribbed with Norseland steel and fleshed with Viking pine,
That's fashioned of the soil which bred the hosts of Charlemagne;
And clad we are with rusting pride
Of stays and links and plates
That lay within the mountain side
Where Barbarossa waits—
The mighty Fred'rick thralled in sleep, held by the ancient sign,
While yet the ravens circle wide
Above that guarded mountain side,
Full fed with carrion from the tide
Of swinish red rapine!

Oh, we have known the German men when German men were true,
And we have borne the German flag when honor was her due;
But sick we are of honest scorn
From honest merchantmen—
The winds they call us to be gone
Down to the seas again—
Down to the seas where waves lift white and gulls sheer in the blue,
Shriven clean of our blood-bought scorn
By a foeman's flag—ay, proudly borne!—
Cleaving out in the good red dawn—
Out again to the blue!

Here is a poem by another gifted woman writer, which we take from *The Vassar Monthly:*

THE WITCH HAZEL

BY GERTRUDE BUCK

By blazoned autumn roads Witch Hazel stands.
The ripe-hued lands
Her coming wait, whose pale, uncertain ray
Shall long outstay
The aspen's twinkling gold, the flaming lines
Of high-flung vines
That wreathe dull cedars, and the tarnished glow
Of corn a-row.

In star-mist veiled, leaf-bare, her wands of light
Turn back the flight
Of summer days, and hold them, drunk with sun,
While past them run
November's shriveled hours of dark and cold.
The season old
Grows young with thee, thou tree of all men's dreams.
Thy subtle gleams,
Enkindled at the year's low-sinking fires,
Wake dim desires
For youth in age, for joy in hope's decay,
For love's lost day.

Thou autumn spirit, wraith of autumn's gold,
Enchantress old
That buddest out of time, thou Aaron's rod,
The hand of God,
Hath touched thy barren stalk to blossoming,
And lo, thy spring!

Edith M. Thomas has some graceful verses in the New York *Times*, founded on a Greek anthology:

SET SAIL

BY EDITH M. THOMAS

It was a tomb that crowned a bluff—
Marble, half-shapen from the rough.
It was, tho dimly fashioned so,
A ship, as any one might know;
A sightless Victory at the prow,
And all a wreck from stern to bow.
The ship—it was a tomb, and thence
Outflowed immortal evidence
In such a voice that wave nor wind
Its godlike oracle could bind.
And those could hear (who knew to hear)
Its ever-during witness clear:
"Who'er beneath this headland steer!
The shipwrecked has good words of cheer.
Say that I did not make my port—
Say that I was the typhoon's sport—
The gnashing Scylla's hungry prey—
Till under fathom-depths I lay.
Say that my timbers rot and rot
On strands by merchantmen forgot,
In coves the salt sea hath forsook.
It matters not what fate o'ertook,
Stranger, your long-gone sailor peer.
I say, 'Set sail, nor hark to Fear!'
Think only, when my ship went down,
That other ships of fair renown
Unto their destined havens came,
Whereof the waves still shout their fame.
I did not make my port, but yet
The glorious risk can not forget!
So, stranger, I do counsel thee,
Give thy whole heart unto the sea.
Even the shipwrecked more prevail
Than they who never flung a sail."

Whatever we may have thought of the political views of the now defunct *Masses*, we are all agreed that it had a singularly happy knack of publishing excellent verse. We quote the following from one of the penultimate numbers:

EARTH AND STARS

BY ROSE HENDERSON

I have looked at the stars too long, I think,
For my soul hangs lonely above the brink
Of a wild, bright chasm, a strange, far sea
Where only my dreams float out to me.
There is light and splendor and lifting wings,
But the aching wonder of untouched things.

Night wind, blow me a breath of soil,
Fresh-turned by the plowman's eager toil,
Of blossomy hedges with birds asleep,
Of mint-grown gardens where house cats creep,
Of a rose-wreathed porch and a lover's song.
I have looked at the stars too long.

In her "Dreamers, and Other Poems" (George H. Doran, New York), Theodosia Garrison has given us some of her best work. The title-poem runs:

THE DREAMER

BY THEODOSIA GARRISON

The gipsies passed her little gate—
She stopt her wheel to see—
A brown-faced pair who walked the road
Free as the wind is free;
And suddenly her little room
A prison seemed to be.

Her shining plates against the walls,
Her sunlit, sanded floor,
The brass-bound wedding-chest that held
Her linen's snowy store,
The very wheel whose humming died—
Seemed only chains she bore.

She watched the foot-free gipsies pass;
She never knew or guessed
The wistful dream that drew them close—
The longing in each breast—
Some day to know a house like hers,
Wherein their hearts might rest.

Here is a mood familiar to all who have loved and lost most delicately portrayed. The simplicity and restraint of this poem add to its power.

THE UNKNOWING

BY THEODOSIA GARRISON

They do not know the awful tears we shed,
The tender treasures that we keep and kiss;
They could not be so still, our quiet dead
In knowing this.

They do not know what time we turn to fill
Love's empty chalice with a cheaper bliss;
They could not be so still—so very still
In knowing this.

PERSONAL GLIMPSES

UNCONQUERED BELGIUM AFTER THREE YEARS OF WAR

FROM dream to reality; from the trials of sacrifice into the hope of an early reward. These were the sensations of Emile Cammaerts, the author, as he describes them upon his return to the front in Belgium after an absence of three years. The author's account of his impressions is printed in the London *Daily Telegraph*, which Mr. E. de Cartier, the Belgian Minister at Washington, sends to the editor of THE LITERARY DIGEST with an expression of his gratitude for "all the kindness and sympathy" which this publication has shown for his country "in its articles and its generous initiative in collecting contributions for suffering Belgium." This is Mr. Cammaerts's picture of three years ago:

> I had not seen the Belgian front for three years. It was in December, 1914, on the morrow of the Battle of the Yser, a vision of mud and rain, and a thousand hardships cheerfully borne. The work of reequipment had scarcely started. Many things were still wanting, and some units looked, in their medley of uniforms, like irregular bands of brigands. A few farms could be seen emerging from the floods, like islets from the sea, and the men had to wade knee-deep to reach their advance posts: Everything was gray, misty, silent, and mysterious—a desert haunted by an army of ghosts. The thousands of dead whom we had just lost made their presence felt, and there was a pervading reek in the air.

And then this contrast—the trenches of to-day:

> We moved in a world of colors where the warm tones of khaki and of the screens of "camouflage" blended in strange harmony with the blue of the sky and the vivid red of some freshly wrecked brick wall. The floods were much lower, covered with rustling reeds, alive with water-hens and seagulls. Round Dixmude, Ramscapelle, and Nieuport shells were bursting incessantly. Field-guns were barking away close by, and the voices of many heavies could now be heard on our side. From time to time some long-distance shells whizzed overhead. Every detail of the scene brought the same message of life, struggle, and readiness, from the sturdy helmeted infantryman going to his rest-camp after a spell in the trenches, to the well-organized defenses in every village close to the front, to the narrow foot-bridges leading to the advance-posts in the floods where Belgians and Germans confront each other every night in an amphibious war full of surprizes and thrilling incidents.
>
> For even in the sector of the floods the front held by the Belgian Army has never ceased to be lively. With the exception of the counter-attack of Steenstraete, during the second battle of Ypres, no operation on a large scale has been made since 1914, but the artillery duel has never stopt for more than a few days, and there is not one night when some bombing expedition or some advance post raid does not take place. Those who would go to the Belgian front with the preconceived idea that nothing happens in that quarter might be sorely disillusioned. They might,

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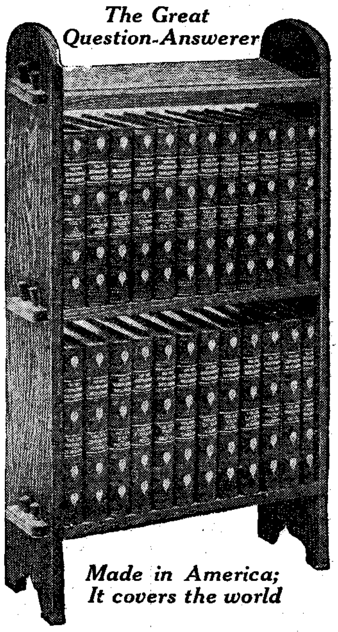

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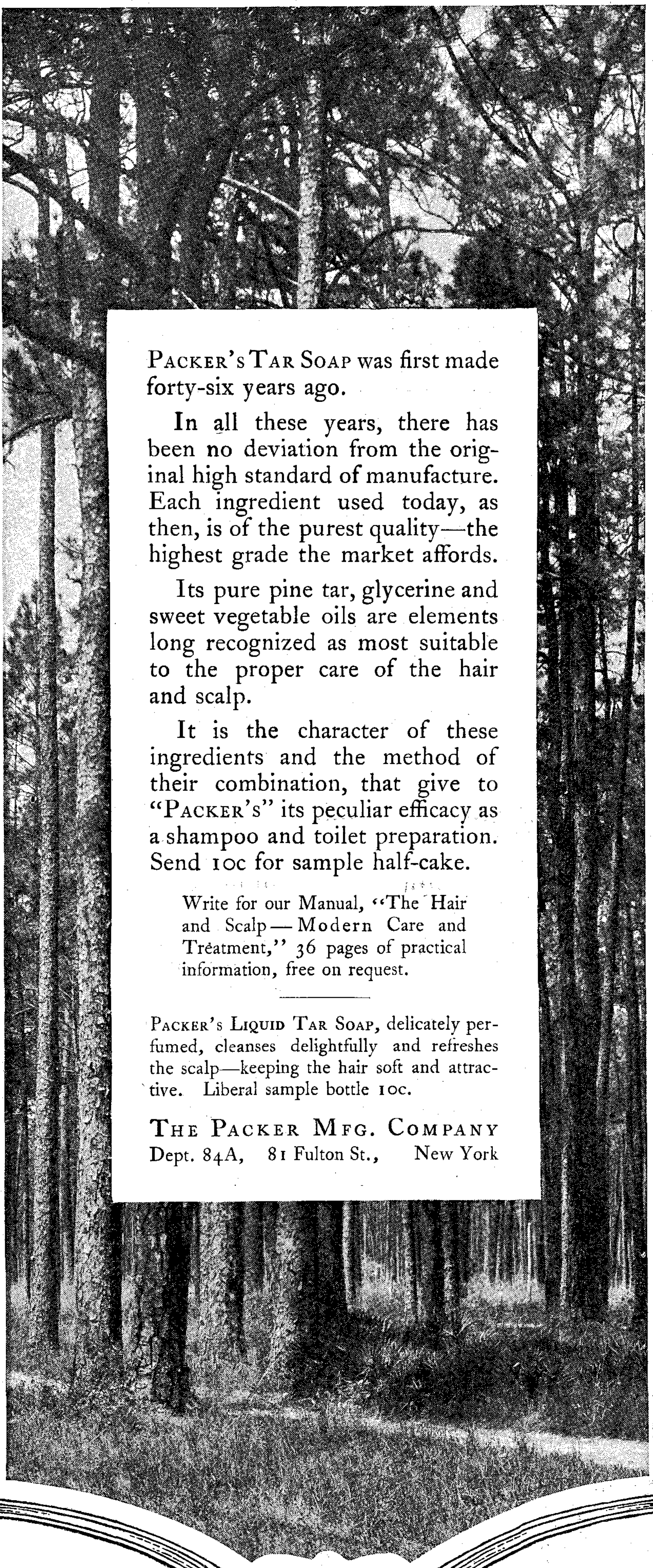

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for instance, undergo the same experience as the Italian aide-de-camp who, while accompanying King Victor Emmanuel and King Albert in their recent tour of inspection, found himself unexpectedly half-buried by a shell. It would be a great mistake to judge the work of the Belgian Army, or, for the matter of that, of any army, from the extremely concise and guarded utterances of the official *communiqués*.

There is a small cemetery close to the church of Adinkerke, near Furnes, where the peasants and fishermen who lived in that village used to find a peaceful rest after a long and busy life. Here, among the civilians, close to the iron paling, is the simple tomb of our great national poet, Emile Verhaeren. The cemetery has been enlarged to make room for some of the boys whom Belgium has lost since the battle of the Yser. Only those who died of wounds in the neighboring hospitals are buried here, and similar cemeteries can be found closer to the front and in the rear as far as Calais. I have walked through these rows of graves, standing close together, and read there many familiar names on many simple crosses. Rich men, poor men, students and laborers, some who fought since Liége, others who had come from the occupied provinces. Every tomb bears a number, and before I had reached the end of the last row I counted 2,000 of them. There are, indeed, many more things happening than the official *communiqués* allow us to dream of.

There is not a town or village in this region that has not suffered from shell or bomb. Furnes, which used to be King Albert's headquarters, had to be abandoned. The old market-place, once a scene of much activity, is now deserted and grass is growing between the cobblestones. One house, however, is still inhabited by an old woman and her daughter who keep a small café. There the four or five soldiers and the few civilians who are allowed to remain in the town gather at the end of the day to drink a glass of beer and play a game of cards, for, says Mr. Cartier, the Belgian spirit of comradeship is hard to kill. Continuing he writes:

> I had the opportunity of talking with the old lady who presides over this peaceful assembly. She told me that she had only just come back from a "holiday" she had been obliged to take in France after the last raid, and she confest to me that this war had been a great worry to her: "*Oui, monsieur, cette guerre, c'est bien ennuyeuse.*" The day before I had met at Arras a Frenchwoman who had kept her little shop open throughout the bombardment. She was very neatly drest, and, with a bright smile, explained that she had been congratulated by the *préfet*. "*Oui, m'sieu,*" she declared, "*j'suis une martyre d'Arras.*" There you have the two types of Flemish and French temperament in a nutshell. They express themselves differently, but they act in the same way.
>
> From the top of the clock-house of Furnes, amid a cloud of frightened, cawing crows, you could see the whole country spread before you like a map in the evening light. Nieuport was clouded with bursting shells, and the straight line of the Belgian front could clearly be seen along the Yser floods as far as Caeskerke, and further on beyond Dixmude and Loos, where the enemy line stands so close to our

own that in calm weather the faintest whisper can be heard on either side, and is invariably followed by a hail of hand-grenades.

Straight before us we could see Ramscapelle, which we had not been able to visit owing to a heavy bombardment, and Pervyse, where we had called on two English ladies who established there a first-aid station in 1914, and have remained faithfully at their post. Some change also had occurred there. The "miss," as they are called, have had to leave their old home owing to the visitation of a German shell, and to take up new quarters at the end of the village, on the ground floor of a red-tiled cottage. The first floor has disappeared, but the roof has been skilfully repaired and lowered so that the house looks more or less like a little boy who has tried on his father's hat. If I did not fear to be indiscreet, I should also mention that one of these ladies—who, needless to say, remains a "miss" for the soldiers—has married a Belgian officer, and is now Madame la Baronne de T——. There is not a corner of this Belgian front at Furnes, La Panne, Adinkerke, or Pervyse where Belgian heroism has not been comforted by English kindness, and where the smile of some Englishwoman has not alleviated the sufferings of some Belgian soldier.

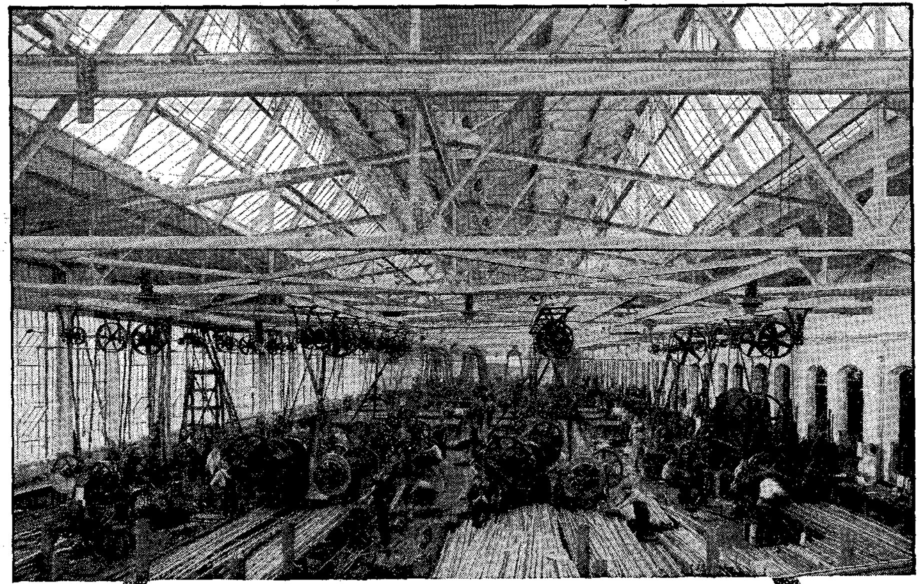
Something of the physical work that is necessary in maintaining the defenses on the Belgian front can be gathered from the writer's talk with an officer who, in reply to a compliment upon the conditions as compared with those of three years before, said:

"Yes, we have worked a good deal, but there is something much more amazing than these physical improvements; it is the fact that the men, after so many months of patient waiting, have kept up their spirits. When Londoners see our soldiers coming on leave without their trench equipment and in fresh uniforms they do not realize the hard life which they are leading in Flanders. If, instead of enjoying this bright weather, you had experienced a spell of slush and rain, you would have gathered a very different impression.

"You are, of course, aware that it is nowhere possible to dig oneself in in this part of Flanders, so that everywhere our trenches must be built up with sand-bags. That means, of course, that the least bombardment upsets your defense works, and obliges the men to repair them constantly. A spell of rain after dry weather is nearly as bad, and you can see your parapet melting and slipping away before your eyes. Then there is the camouflage, those screens of reeds which you find so picturesque. Do you realize that the reeds must be cut at night in the floods and carried in bundles to the roads? When they are dried they are strung together and fixt by wires to poles ten feet high. And there are miles and miles of roads to be screened.

"You must never forget that there is no division of work in the Belgian Army, no shock troops, no fatigue parties. We can not afford that. The same man fills sand-bags one day and joins in a raid the next, after a three-mile walk. I once weighed one of my men's great-coats after such a night march through the clay, mud, and the rain. It weighed over fifty pounds.

"Quite apart from the fact that the soldiers are cut off from their people, and that a few only hear from them from time to time, there is the tedious monotony of pursuing the same work amid the same



Lupton Factory: Interior of building with Pond Truss roof, giving light and ventilation in all weathers.

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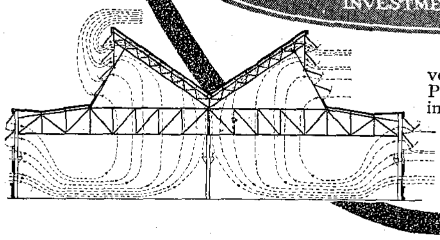


Diagram showing ventilation of typical Pond Truss Building in a cross wind.

difficulties. In every other army some shifting of troops is possible. We are still marking time on the same spot. Many men would gladly risk their lives for a change of surroundings. As it is, the only trouble we have with them is in trying to avoid useless losses. Only a few days ago I lost two men who, in spite of strict orders, were foolhardy enough to play cards on their parapet close to the German lines. And if by chance they kill a rabbit or any other game they will not wait until the evening but go and fetch it in full view of the snipers. There will be only one difficulty about an advance, to keep them from rushing into their own barrage. . . . But, of course, it can not be helped. We must remain on Belgian soil around the King."

Of the much-beloved sovereign of this stricken but courageous people, and the Queen, who is ever at his side, Mr. Cartier writes:

I had passed, a few hours earlier, before the simple house in which King Albert lives with the Queen, surrounded by a few aides-de-camp, and I had endeavored to imagine the monotonous round of his daily work: his visit to headquarters, where, helped by his Chief of Staff, General Rucquoy, he examines all the measures dealing with the main administration and direction of the Belgian Army; then some inspection either in the rear or toward the front lines, where so many soldiers have met him more than once in dangerous corners and bad weather, by day and night.

Once a week King Albert presides over a council of ministers, taking his large share of responsibilities in the work of reconstruction which is already confronting his Government. He keeps himself informed not only of the least incident happening in the Army, but of all the news which might reach him from occupied Belgium. And this incessant work and worry are only relieved, from time to time, by a short visit to the British or French fronts in France.

With the exception of a few days spent with her children abroad, Queen Elizabeth has remained at the side of her husband, and, thanks to her influence and active work, the Belgian field-ambulances and hospitals are now among the best on the Western front. Some people have regretted that King Albert should never leave the zone of danger; others have wondered why, if not for himself, at least for the sake of his people, he would never consent to gather, in Paris, London, or New York, the fruits of his world-wide popularity; others still have felt hurt on account of the extreme reserve of his attitude toward the keenest friends of Belgium in search of an interview, but when the history of this war is written the true nobility of King Albert's attitude and the great wisdom of his policy will be fully recognized.

As long as his country is in bondage, the place for this soldier is among his soldiers; as long as his people are bleeding under the German yoke there can be no room in this King's soul for any selfish or personal feeling. His glory may shine for the world, but he ignores it. He has refused to reap the crop which hs has sown in anguish before the joy of victory has ripened it. With the humblest of his soldiers he prefers to wait patiently until the day of deliverance crowns his efforts. He is much too simple and unaffected to make a vow of reserve and silence, but, with a sure instinct, he has chosen the best way of disarming criticism and preserving to the last his people's loyalty, his soldiers' affections, and his friends' confidence.

HOW THE CANADIANS GOT INTO THE WAR-GAME

SANDY CLARK, in a dugout in Flanders, was eating a trench-made sandwich of bread and bully beef. A high explosive came over from the enemy and half-buried Sandy and his sandwich. Disinterring himself and clinging to his repast, now thoroughly muddied, Sandy made his way down the trench to a clear space. He sat down by a sentry, finished his meal, wiped his mouth and remarked about ten minutes after the explosion:

"That was a close one."

This incident is typical of the soul of Tommy Atkins, we read in "Private Peat—His Own Story," by Harold R. Peat (Bobbs Merrill, Indianapolis), who has returned from Flanders with a useless right arm. He saw some of the fiercest fighting in that debated terrane as a member of the first Canadian contingent. In danger Tommy is imperturbable, certain of his own immediate immunity from death, confident of his regiment's invincibility. Add to this his deep-rooted love for home and faith in the might and right of Britain, and you have a portrait of the soldier who did so much to fit Canadians for the grim game of battle. Looking back nearly two years, Private Peat says it seems to him they were "somewhat like young unbroken colts," but gradually the British Tommy—by which is meant also the Welsh, Scotch, and Irish—influenced the Canadians until they acquired much of his steadiness of purpose, bulldog tenacity, and insouciance. Tommy never instructed them by word of mouth, but lived his creed in his daily rounds, for he "never knows that he is beaten, therefore a beating is never his." How the Canadians gradually got into the game is told by Private Peat as follows:

At Neuve Chapelle we had "stood by." At Hill 60 we had watched the fun. But our discipline, our real mettle, had not yet been put to the test.

That evening of the 22d of April when we marched out from Ypres, little did any of us realize that within the next twenty-four hours more than one-half of our total effectives were to be no more.

I feel sure that our commanders must have been nervous. They must have wondered and asked themselves: "Will the boys stand it? How will they come out of the test?"

We were about to be thrown into the fiercest and bitterest battle of the war. There were no other troops within several days' march of us. There was no one to back us up. There was no one else, should we fail, to take our place. "Canadians! It's up to you!"

I could tell of several stirring things that happened to other battalions during that night, but I am only telling of what I saw myself, and it will suffice to write of one most stirring thing which befell the Third.

As we crossed the Yser Canal we marched in a dogged and resolute silence. No man can tell what were the thoughts of his comrade. We have no bands, nor bugles, nor music when marching into action. We dare not even smoke. In dark and quiet we pass steadily ahead. There is only the continued muffled tramp—tramp—of hundreds of feet encased in heavy boots.

To the far right of us and to the far left shells were falling, bursting, and brilliantly lighting up the heavens for a lurid moment. In our immediate sector there were no shells. It was all the more dark and all the more silent for the noise and uproar and blazing flame to right and left.

We were on rising ground now. Up and up steadily we went. We reached the top of the grade when suddenly from out of the pit of darkness ahead of us there came a high explosive shell. It dropt in the middle of our battalion. It struck where the machine-gun section was placed, and annihilated them almost to a man.

Then it was that our mettle stood the test. Then it was that we proved the words Canadian and Man synonymous. Not one of us wavered; not one of us swerved to right or left, to front or back. We kept on. There was hardly one who lost in step. The commanders whispered in the darkness, "Close up the ranks." The men behind those who had fallen jumped across the bodies of their comrades lying prone and joined in immediately behind those in the forward rows.

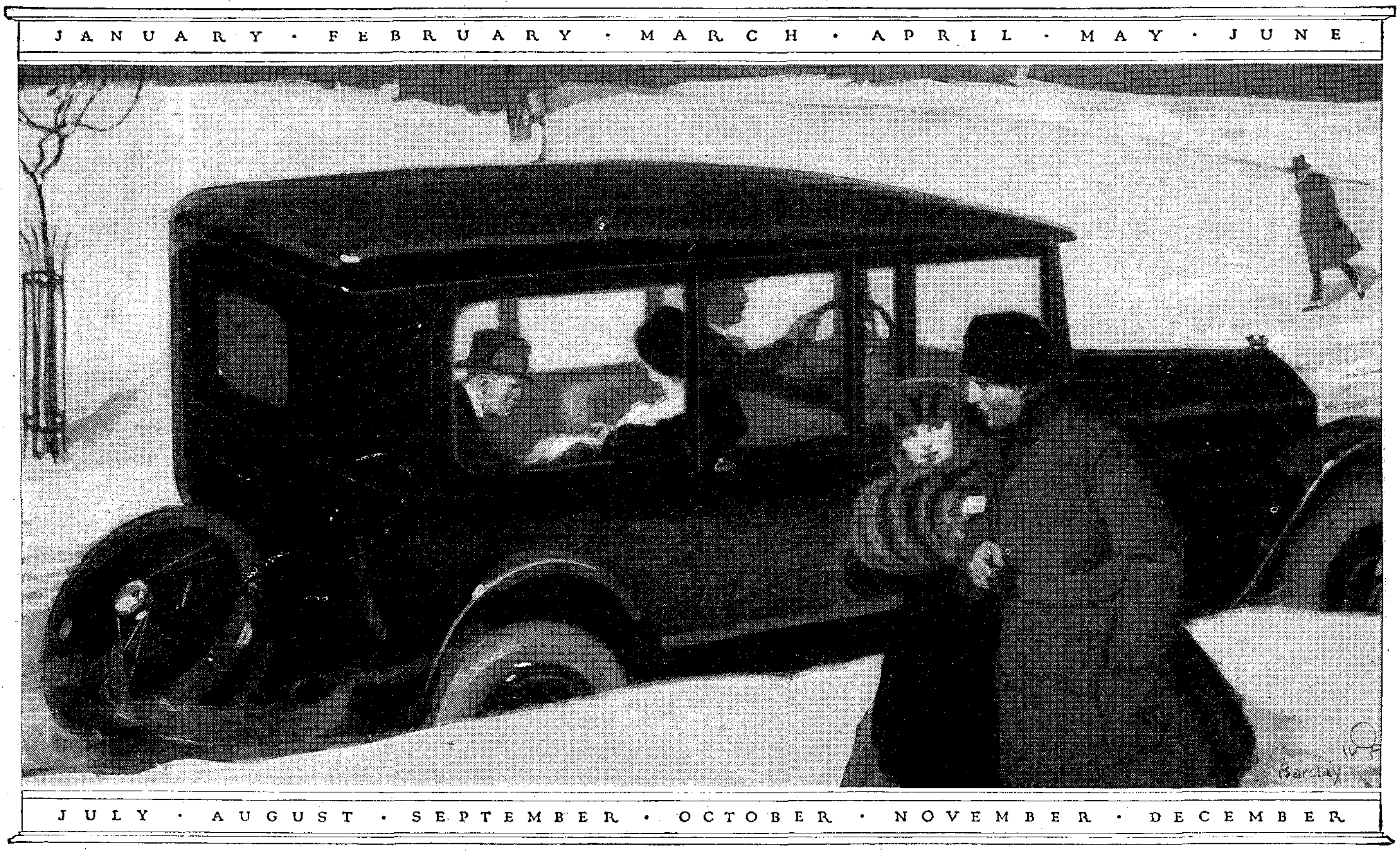
The dead and wounded lay stretched where they had fallen. Coming behind us were the stretcher-bearers and the hospital corps. We knew our comrades would have attention. This was a grim business. We prest on.

There was a supreme test of discipline. It was our weighing time in the balance of the world-war, and we proved ourselves not wanting. We were Canadians—that's all.

That afternoon the gas came over on us. The Germans put gas across on us because they hated us most. It is a compliment to be hated by the Germans. Extreme hatred from a German in the field shows that the hated are the most effective. They hated the French most at first, they hated the Imperial British, they hated us; they have hated the English again; soon, when the United States comes to her full effectiveness, she will take her place in the front rank of the hated.

We Canadians were a puzzle to them. When we went into the trenches at first the enemy would call across the line to us—"What have you come over here to fight us for? What business is it of yours? Why did you not stay back home and attend to your own affairs, and not butt into something that does not concern you? If you had stayed at home in your own country, when we came over and took Canada we would have treated you all right. Now that you have interfered, we are going to get you some day and get you right."

Yes; when they came over and took Canada. That was the very reason we were fighting. We wanted to keep our own part of the Empire for ourselves. It is ours absolutely, and we had no intention that Germany should own it. We knew exactly what the Hohenzollerns planned to do. If France were subdued, if England were beaten on her own ground, then Canada would be a prize of war. We preferred to fight overseas, in a country which already had been devastated, rather than carry ruin and devastation into our own land, where alone we would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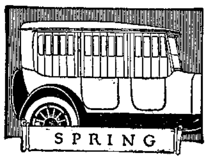
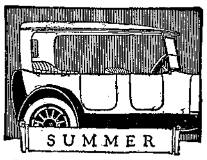
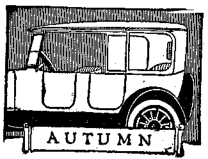


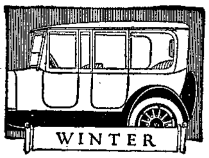
Rain protection—jiffy curtains in place.



Complete ventilation—all panels removed.



Tonneau protection—forward panels removed.



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"The Girl I Leave Behind Me"—Haskell Coffin

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not have the slightest chance in the world for beating Germany.

In the front lines of the Ypres salient was the Third Brigade, made up of Canadian Highlanders, whom the Germans, since that night have nicknamed "The Ladies from Hell." In this brigade were men from parts of Nova Scotia, Montreal, from Hamilton, Toronto, Winnipeg, and Vancouver.

To the left of these lay the Second Brigade of Infantry. These were men for the most part from the West. There was the Fifth, commonly known as the "Disappointed Fifth," from Regina, Moose Jaw, and Saskatoon. There was the Eighth, nicknamed by the Germans "The Little Black Devils from Winnipeg." The Tenth, the famous "Fighting Tenth," with boys from southern Alberta, mainly Medicine Hat and Calgary and Lethbridge. And there was the Seventh of British Columbia.

It was the Second Brigade which the First was supporting. To the left of the Eighth Battalion, which was the extreme Canadian left wing, there were Zouaves and Turcos. These were black French colonials. To these unfortunates probably the Canadians owe their near disaster.

In the far distance we saw a cloud rise as tho from the earth. It was a greeny-red color, and increased in volume as it rolled forward. It was like a mist rising, and yet it hugged the ground, rose five or six feet, and penetrated to every crevice and dip in the ground.

We could not tell what it was. Suddenly from out of the mist we men in reserves saw movement. Coming toward us, running as tho hell as it really was had been let loose behind them, were the black troops from northern Africa. Poor devils, I do not blame them. It was enough to make any man run. They were simple-minded fellows. They were there to fight for France, but their minds could not grasp the significance of the enemy against whom they were pitted. The gas rolled on and they fled. Their officers vainly tried to stem the flying tide of them. Their heels barely seemed to touch the ground. As they ran they covered their faces, noses, and eyes with their hands, and through blackened lips, sometimes cracked and bleeding, they gasped: "Allemands! Allemands!"

Some of our own French-speaking officers stopt the few running men they could make hear, and begged of them to reform their lines and go back to the attack. But they were maddened as only a simple race can be frenzied by fear, and paid no heed.

It is in times like this, in moments of dire emergency, that the officer of true worth stands out, the real leader of men. There were a dozen incidents to prove this in the next few hurried, desperate moments. None can be more soul-stirring than the quick thought, quick action, and foresight displayed by our own captain. He did not know what this smoke rushing toward our lines could be. He had no idea more definite than any of us in the ranks. But he had the quick brain that acts automatically in an emergency and thinks afterward.

"Wet your handkerchiefs in your water-bottles, boys!" he ordered.

We all obeyed promptly.

"Put the handkerchiefs over your faces—and shoot like the devil!" he panted.

We did this, and as the gas got closer the handkerchiefs served as a sort of temporary respirator and saved many of us from a frightful death. We in the reserves suffered least. Yet some of us died by that infernal product. A man dies by gas in horrible torment. He turns perfectly black, those men, at any rate, whom I saw at that time. Black as black leather, eyes, even lips, teeth, nails. He foams at the mouth as a dog in hydrophobia; he lingers five or six minutes and then—goes West.

"Marvelous" is the only word to describe the endurance, the valor of the Ladies from Hell. They withstood the gas, and they withstood wave after wave of attacking German hordes. And yet even their wonderful work was overtopped by that of the Eighth, which, being exposed on the left by the black troops who had fled, had to bear the brunt of a fight which almost surrounded them.

It was wonderful. I shall never forget it. There were twelve thousand Canadian troops. In the German official reports after the battle they stated that they had used one hundred and twenty thousand men against us and one thousand guns. We had not one gun. Those that we had were captured when the African blacks had left. It was our strength against theirs—no, it was white man's spirit against barbarian brutality.

For six days and nights that terrible death-struggle continued. Every man was engaged: cooks, doctors, stretcher-bearers, chaplains, every one of us held a rifle. The wounded who had to take their chance of living because there was no way to convey them back to shelter—some of them would sit up, if they possibly could, to load and load again rifles which they lifted from dead comrades. They would hand us these as our rifles got too hot to hold. And still the German attacks persisted. Still they came on. And still we did not budge an inch from our position as it was when the gas first came over. They did not gain a yard, tho, when the British reserves at last reached us, there were only two thousand of us left standing on our feet; two thousand of us who were whole from out the twelve thousand that had started in to repel the attack.

The two thousand of us were still in the old position. Still we held in our safe-keeping the key of the road to Calais, to Paris, to London, and farther. The key to world-power which the Hohenzollern coveted.

Behind Ypres to-day there lie four thousand five hundred of the flower of the American continent. Four thousand five hundred young men who made the extreme sacrifice for King, for flag, for country, for right. They lie in their narrow beds of earth, and over them wave the shading leaves of maple-trees. For thoughtful citizens sent over and had planted "Canada's little maple grove"—a monument in a strange country to the men who fought and died and were not defeated.

On the night of April 22, General Alderson and his officers saw the situation was desperate and sought to retreat in order to save their men. The General sent up the command: "Retire!" It reached the Little Black Devils first, Private Peat tells us, and as they looked over the flattened parapet of the trench they saw "oncoming hordes of brutes in a hellish-looking garb," and they sent back the answer: "Retire be d——!" The gas and the attacking waves of men poured on, but the Canadians were not frightened.

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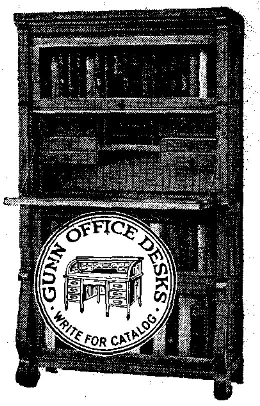

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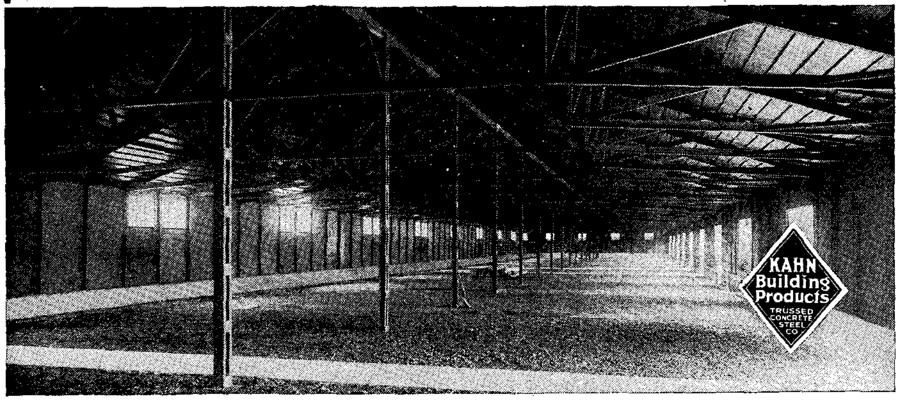

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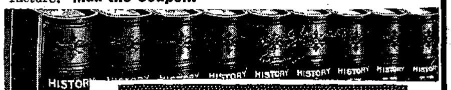

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Warfare like this does not scare men with red blood in their veins, tho it might scare the Germans, who can be scared and also bluffed. Their mistake was to judge the Canadians by themselves, and we read:

> They thought that we were of the same mettle, or lesser. At the Somme we put over on the enemy the only new thing that we have been able to spring during the whole three years—the tanks. Were they scared? They were terrified! They dropt rifles, bayonets, knapsacks, everything—and ran. Had not our tanks stuck in the awful mud of France, or had they had a trifle more speed, I believe it might have been possible for us to have reached Berlin by this time.
>
> It was because we could not be frightened that General French, then Commander-in-Chief of the British Expeditionary Force, cabled across the world on the morning of the 23rd of April—"The Canadians have saved the situation."
>
> No word of definite praise, no eulogy, no encomiums. Just six words—"The Canadians have saved the situation."
>
> The night of April 22 was probably the most momentous time of the six days and nights of fighting. Then the Germans concentrated on the Yser Canal, over which there was but one bridge, a murderous barrage-fire which would have effectively hindered the bringing up of reenforcements or guns, even had we had any in reserve.
>
> During the early stages of the battle the enemy had succeeded to a considerable degree in turning the Canadian left wing. There was a large open gap at this point, where the French colonial troops had stood until the gas came over. Toward this sector the Germans rushed rank after rank of infantry, backed by guns and heavy artillery. To the far-distant left were our British comrades. They were completely blocked by the German advance. They were like rats in a trap and could not move.
>
> At the start of the battle the Canadian lines ran from the village of Langemarcke over to St. Julien, a distance of approximately three to four miles. From St. Julien to the sector where the Imperial British had joined the Turcos was a distance of probably two miles.
>
> These two miles had to be covered, and covered quickly. We had to save the British extreme right wing, and we had to close the gap. There was no question about it. It was our job. On the night of April 22 we commenced to put this into effect. We were still holding our original position with the handful of men who were in reserve, all of whom had been included in the original grand total of twelve thousand. We had to spread out across the gap of two miles and link up the British right wing.
>
> Doing this was no easy task. Our company was out first and we were told to get into field-skirmishing order. We lined up in the pitchy darkness at five paces apart, but no sooner had we reached this than a whisper order passed from man to man: "Another pace, lads, just another pace."
>
> This order came again and yet again. Before we were through and ready for the command to advance, we were at least twice five paces each man from his nearest comrade.
>
> Then it was that our captain told us bluntly that we were obviously outnumbered by the Germans, ten to one. Then he told us that, practically speaking, we had scarcely a ghost of a chance, but that a bluff might succeed. He told us to

"swing the lid over them." This we did by yelling, hooting, shouting, clamoring, until it seemed, and the enemy believed, that we were ten to their one.

The ruse succeeded. At daybreak, when we rested, we found that we had driven the enemy back almost to his original position.

The night of April 22 is one that I can never forget.

It was glorious. It was terrible. It was inspiring. Through an inferno of destruction and death, of murder and horror, we lived because we must.

Early in the night the Fighting Tenth charged, in pitch darkness, the woods of St. Julien. Through the undergrowth they hacked and hewed and fought and bled and died. But, outnumbered as they were, they got the position and captured the battery of 4.7 guns that had been lost earlier in the day.

This night the Germans caught and crucified three of our Canadian sergeants. I did not see them crucify the men, altho I saw one of the dead bodies after. I saw the marks of bayonets through the palms of the hands and the feet, where by bayonet-points this man had been spitted to a barn-door. I was told that one of the sergeants was still alive when taken down, and before he died he gasped out to his saviors that when the Germans were raising him to be crucified they muttered savagely in perfect English: "If we did not frighten you before, this time we will."

I know a sergeant of Edmonton, Alberta, who has in his possession to-day the actual photographs of the crucified men taken before the dead bodies were removed from the barnside.

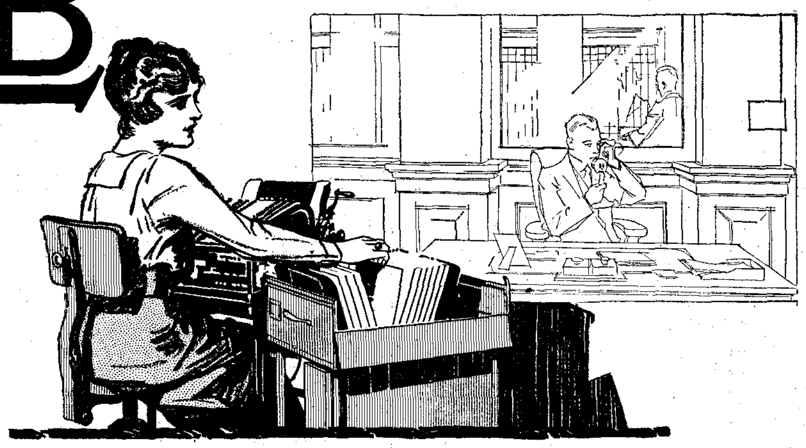
April 23 was one of the blackest days in the annals of Canadian history in this war, and again it was one of the most glorious. That day we were given the task of retaking the greater part of the trenches which the Turco troops had lost the day preceding.

We lay, my own battalion, easily a mile and a half from the German trench which was to be our objective. About six o'clock in the morning we set out very cautiously, with Major Kirkpatrick in command. C and D companies were leading, with a platoon or two of B Company following, comprising in all about seven hundred and fifty men. At first we thought the advance would be comparatively easy, but when we entered the village of St. Julien the German coal-boxes were falling all around us. So far our casualties were light.

To the left of the village we formed in field-skirmishing order—about five paces apart; but before the formation of five successive lines or waves was completed each man was easily eight paces away from his nearest mate instead of five. We were told that our objective was an enemy trench system about four hundred yards in length.

It is impossible to convey in words the feeling of a man in such a situation as this. Apparently none of us actually realized the significance of what we were about to undertake. Probably it was because we were no longer in the trenches, and because we had been out and in the open all the night before.

We stood there waiting. Overhead there was the continuous "crack, crack, crack!" of enemy machine gun and other bullets. It was evident that we had already traversed a mile of our way, and that only half a mile lay ahead of us. The enemy bullets were flying high. I heard no command; I do not think any



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command was given in words, but of a sudden we heard a "click!" to the left. No one even glanced in the direction. Every man fixt his bayonet. The man on the extreme left had fixt his; the "click!" had warned his comrades eight paces away, and the ominous sound, ominous for Hans and Fritz, "click, click, click!" ran along the lines.

The advance had started. In front were our officers, every one of them, from junior to senior, well ahead of his men. A wave of the hand, a quarter right turn, one long blast of the whistle, and we were off. We made mad rushes of fifty to sixty yards at a time, then down we would go. No place to seek cover, only to hug mother earth.

Our lads were falling pretty fast; our officers even faster. To my left Slim Johnstone got his; ahead of me I saw Billy King go down. I heard some one yell out that Lieutenant Smith had dropt. In the next platoon Lieutenant Kirkpatrick fell dead. A gallant lad, this; he fell leading his men and with a word of cheer on his lips.

We were about two hundred yards from the enemy's trench and my estimation is that easily one-third of our fighting men were gone. Easily eight per cent. of our officers were out of the immediate game. Right in front of our eyes our captain—Captain Straight—fell. As he went down he blew two short blasts on his whistle, which was the signal to hug the earth once more. And we dropt.

The officers and men who had been hit had begun their weary crawl back to the dressing-station; that is, all of them who were able to make the effort. We saw that Captain Straight made no attempt to move. Some of us crept to his side.

"Hit in the upper leg," he whispered in reply to the queries.

"Go back, sir, go back!" we urged, but Captain Straight was obdurate. He had made up his mind that he was going to see the thing through and stick to it he would no matter what the cost to himself. He realized that only by some superhuman effort would we now be able to take the enemy trench. The machine-gun fire was hellish. The infantry fire was blinding. A bullet would flash through the sleeve of a tunic, rip off the brim of a cap, bang against a water-bottle, bury itself in the mass of a knapsack. It seemed as tho no one could live in such a hail of lead. But no one had fallen down on the task of the day. Each battalion was advancing, with slowness and awful pain, but all were advancing.

Captain Straight knew how we were placed for effectives, both in officers and men. He knew how we adored him. He lay a few minutes to get his breath, then attempted to stand, but could not, as one leg was completely out of commission. He dragged himself along with his hands, catching hold of the tufts of grass or digging his fingers into the soft earth. He made thirty or forty yards in this way, then one long blast of his whistle and we rushed ahead, to fall flat on a level with him as he sounded the two-blast command. Probably ten times he dragged himself forward, and ten times we rushed and dropt in that awful charge. The captain gritted his teeth, for his pain must have been horrible. He waved his arm as he lay and waited ahead of us—"Come on, lads—come on!" And we came.

I don't know what other men may have felt in that last advance. For myself the thought flashed across my mind—"What's the use? It is certain death to stay here longer; why not lie down, wait till the worst is over and be able to fight again—it is useless, hopeless—it is suicide to attempt such a task." Then just ahead of us I saw Captain Straight crawling slowly but surely, and through the "Zing!" of bullets I heard his voice, fainter but still earnest and full of courage, cry out: "Come on, lads—come on!"

He was one of the first to roll over into that improvised German trench.

No, we could not have failed; we could not have stopt. As one of our young boys said afterward: "Fellows, I'd have followed him to h—— and then some!"

It was h—— all right, but no matter; we had gone through it, and got what we had come for—the German trench.

Out of the seven hundred and fifty of us who advanced, a little over two hundred and fifty gained the German trench; and of that number twenty-five or more fell dead as soon as they reached the enemy, and got that revenge for which they had come.

I doubt if there will again be a battle fought in this war where the feeling of the men will be as bitter as at St. Julien. Men were found dead with their bayonets through the body of some Hun, men who had been shot themselves thirty yards down the field of advance. Their bodies were dead, as we understand death, but the God-given spirit was alive, and that spirit carried the earth-bound flesh forward to do its work, to avenge comrades murdered and womanhood outraged. It was marvelous—it may have been a miracle. It was done, and for all time has proved to the boys who fought out there the power of the spirit over the flesh.

We had seen atrocities on the Belgians the day before. We had seen young girls who were mutilated and horribly maltreated. We had been gassed, we had seen our comrades die in an awful horror. We had had our sergeants crucified, and we were outnumbered ten to one. After all this, and after all the h—— through which we had passed from six that morning until after two, when we reached the enemy trench and presented the bright ends of our bayonets, Mr. Fritz went down on his knees and cried "*Kamerad! Kamerad!*"

What did we do? We did exactly what you would have done under like circumstances. "*Kamerad!*"—Bah!

There is no doubt that the German soldier is a good soldier as far as he goes. He is good in a charge, and if he had not done the despicable things—the dreadful, outrages which he has done—he could be admired as a fighting machine. But there is one department in which we of the Allies have him licked to a frazzle. Talk to any man who has been "out there" and he will say the same. The German soldier can not hold in a hand-to-hand fight. He can't face the cold steel. The second he glimpses the glint of a bayonet he is whimpering and asking for mercy.

The German bayonet is a fiendish weapon. It is well its owner can not use it. For myself I do not know of one case where a comrade has been wounded by enemy steel. His bayonet is longer than ours, and from the tip for a few inches is a saw-edge. This facilitates entrance into the body, but on turning to take it out it tears and rends savagely.

Private Peat goes on to say that it is impossible to describe the work of every battalion in a battle, for in a concerted charge like that of April 23 not one

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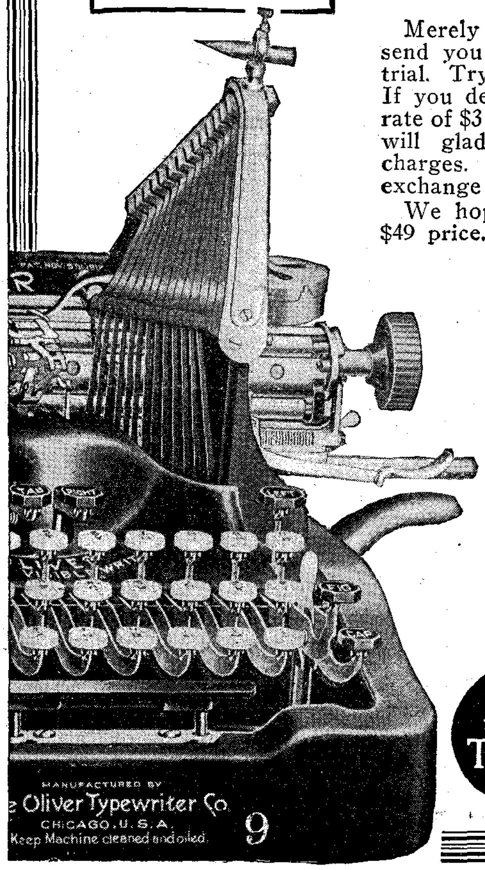

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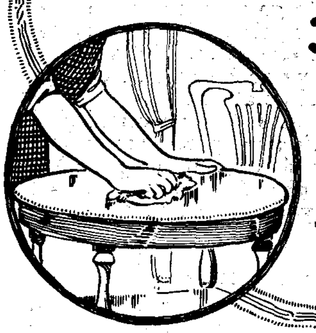

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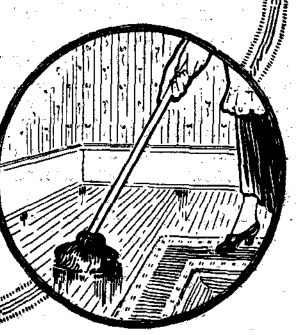

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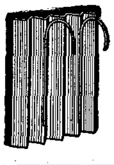

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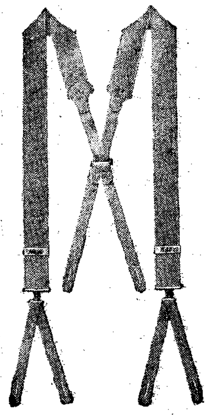

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battalion, one officer, or man outranked another in valor. They all fought "like the devil." Yet he does recite the achievements of a few of the fighters, tho he reminds us that ten thousand more names could be added to this gallant roll of honor for—

> At the beginning of the battle of Ypres our lines were a little over twelve thousand strong, and after six days and nights of fighting there remained two thousand of us standing. We had practically not budged an inch. The Germans had not broken our line, our one thin, straggling, far-stretched line. We remained the victors of Ypres.
>
> Perhaps our greatest reward came when on April 26 the English troops reached us. We had been completely cut off by the enemy barrage from all communication with other sectors of the line. Still, through the wounded gone back, word of our stand had drifted out. The English boys fought and force-marched and fought again their terrible way through the barrage to our aid. And when they arrived, weary and worn and torn, cutting their bloody way to us, they cheered themselves hoarse; cheered as they marched along, cheered and gript our hands as they got within touch of us. Yell after yell went upward, and stirring words woke the echoes. The boys of the Old Country paid their greatest tribute to us of the New as they cried:
>
> "Canadians—Canadians—that's all!"

THE SPEECH THAT STARTED THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION

It is easy enough to declaim against a fallen autocrat, but to take an open stand against a powerful Government accustomed to answer too daring critics with the scaffold, the dungeon, or Siberian exile requires real bravery. It was, therefore, an act of remarkable courage when Prof. Paul Miliukoff attacked Premier Stürmer on the floor of the Russian Duma with the violence of a Cicero castigating a Catiline or a Demosthenes denouncing a Philip. This speech eventually brought about the resignation of this Russian Premier with the German name, on November 24, 1916, and for the first time in Russian history, as was noted in our columns a year ago, the will of the people had forced a Premier from office. Professor Miliukoff told the Associated Press, about that time, that he regarded "the trouble as definitely over." But he was a better orator than prophet. For other Premiers fell, Rasputin was killed, the Duma grew bolder and bolder, and in a few months its refusal to obey the edict ordering dissolution led to open revolt and the fall of the monarchy.

Miliukoff's speech denouncing Stürmer has been translated into English in verse form and has been printed in a newspaper in England. A copy was shown to Professor Miliukoff, who acknowledged the substantial correctness of this poetic version of what he had said in impassioned prose. Mr. Horace V. Winchell, the eminent geologist, of Minneapolis, has given us the privilege of reproducing this address as an important historical document and an example of Russian oratory at its best. Miliukoff, it will be remembered, was one of the ablest of that group of Constitutional Democrats who made the first moves against the corrupt Russian autocracy, and who guided the new Republic until more impatient and less steady hands seized the helm. This is what the Russian statesman and scholar said in the Duma a year ago:

Gentlemen, I am, no less than you, aware
A funeral sermon is a sad affair,
And yet you may admit this poor excuse:
It has, as most things have, a certain use.
It makes the living to their loss resigned,
And calls the virtues of the dead to mind,
And might perchance in one or two create
A sudden brief resolve to imitate,
Or if no better lesson it may teach
Displays at least the preacher's power of speech.

And yet, you may have noticed, all that's said
In such orations leave the dead one dead.
Ah, when did ever orator aspire
To kindle in the corpse the spirit's fire?
Yet, gentlemen, this mad resolve have I,
Honor is dead, yet honor must not die.
Ah, no, beloved land, of honor reft,
Great tho thou be, O Russia, naught is left!
Ah, no, if any spell or magic give
Secrets of life, I pray, let honor live.
If any have in holy Russia still
Some skill in witchcraft, let them use their skill!
Bring honor back to life, nor count the cost,
Before the world suspects what we have lost,
Lest soon, an evil savor, it may be
Blown in the nostrils of humanity,
And even savage tribes of Russians say:
"There goes a traitor, let us turn away."

O folly and dishonor, who denies
That Russia was rich in her allies,
True friends—for us they worked, they lived, they fought,
Forgave us everything and grudged us naught;
Their blood and ours on the same field is shed,
And their dead are the comrades of our dead.
Are such the friends, O fellow Russians, say,
Such the allies that you are to betray?
You tremble, gentlemen, and well you may!

Even you, sir, tremble as you ring the bell,
And it sounds muffled, like a funeral knell;
It will not stop my mouth: its fatal sound
Reaches my soul and bids me hold my ground.
What think you, gentlemen, the sound increases,
It is the sound of silver—silver pieces!
Pieces of silver such as Judas had!
These are wild words, yet do not think me mad.
Here in this paper are the figures cold,
The sum of shekels Russia is sold!
Mad, gentlemen? I think the hand of Fate
Hath planted germs of madness in the State:
Was it not mad to fill the highest place
With one whose very name proclaims his race,
A German nature and a German face?

Ah! gentlemen, this war in which we bleed,
In which our sons fall on the ground like seed,
This, that we thought a sacrifice sublime—
Is it mere carnival and pantomime?
Is it a play in which we shed our gore
While Stürmer takes the silver at the door?

Nay, let us not be silent; ours the blame
If silence leave an everlasting shame.
Awake, ye sons of Russia, wake,
Your country and your honor are at stake!

Silence! When I have finished I will cease:
Stürmer negotiates a separate peace;
Stürmer betrays our country, Stürmer tries
To starve our sons by stopping our supplies;
Our soldiers famish in the trenches cold,
Stürmer is paid for it in German gold.

I have the record here of every cent
The Germans gave him, in this document;
The payments cover fifteen years, or more—
'Tis always a long sum, the devil's score.

Arise, dead honor, from thy coffin rise
And look thy murderer between the eyes.
Let Stürmer answer! See if he denies!

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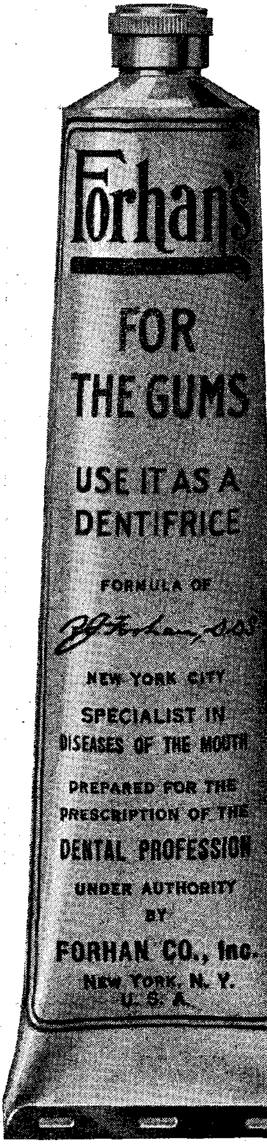
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But measure my emotion by his crime;
And then, if you are Russians, you will see
That I am tame to imbecility.

Lo, yon ambassador, his island race
Is cold and self-possest, yet mark his face.
My horror is reflected in his look,
And tho he does not share our shame, he shook.

Mad I may be; but yet if you remain,
Knowing such things as I have told you, sane,
You are the traitors, you whose eyes are dry
While country, honesty, and honor die.

Nay, I withdraw; my passion went too far,
I know you true and honest as you are,
Good honest Russians, true as steel,
Your honesty's the ground of my appeal.
I know you will avenge the traitor's blow;
You can not tolerate what now you know.
Open your ears, the ambient air is shaking
With one great sob: a mother's heart is breaking—
'Tis holy Russia, mother of us all,
Russia, great Russia, do you hear her call?

O good, or brave, you answer with a cheer.
Now I succeed, the miracle is here:
I have not conjured up the dead in vain,
Those cheers show Honor is alive again.

Yea, Honor lives. Lo, where she takes her throne,
And o'er this great assembly reigns alone!
'Neath her benignant eyes let us debate
And with a new-found calm deliberate.

Let me now show the ends which Stürmer sought,
Since Wilhelm does not pay his gold for naught.
The aim was Revolution: there we see
The meaning of each dark activity.
For this oppression bore with doubled weight
And grit clogged every wheel and cog of state;
For this our peasants groaned; our armies died,
Their weapons blunted and their wants denied—
That in our Russia's ruin war might cease
And chaos somehow culminate in peace.

Such was the plot, but Russia now will know,
And being warned anticipate the blow—
Stürmer and all his German gang must go!

But one word more: If Russia would arise
She must be faithful to her great allies,
And whatsoe'er the difficulties be,
Press on with them in hope to Victory—
This is thy task, O Duma. In their need
The dumb and suffering people wait your deed,
To this must every thought and action tend
That peace be crowned with victory in the end.

THANKS! THANKS!

AS our family of readers may perhaps be interested in knowing what is being said about their magazine, we reprint below two editorials clipt from our exchanges. The first is from Mr. Arthur Brisbane's Washington *Times*, and the second from the Helena *Independent:*

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As the war comes closer to the homes of every American now and during the coming year when it will be even more vital to the interests of every home, this newspaper unhesitatingly advises every family which has contributed anything, from the life of a son to the price of a thrift stamp, to intelligently and carefully follow the war day by day in one of the daily newspapers published at home and to subscribe for and read thoroughly every week THE LITERARY DIGEST, save the maps and study them—they bring the battle-fields right to your home and you will know how the moves are being made on the mighty checker-board of the world.

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How to plan meals without meat.
What meat to eat.
How to get bulk in your food and why.
The danger of too much acid, and how to avoid it.
How to alter your diet without too sudden a change.
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What to eat to gain weight.
How to use your natural taste as a guide.
How much food to eat for your height and weight.
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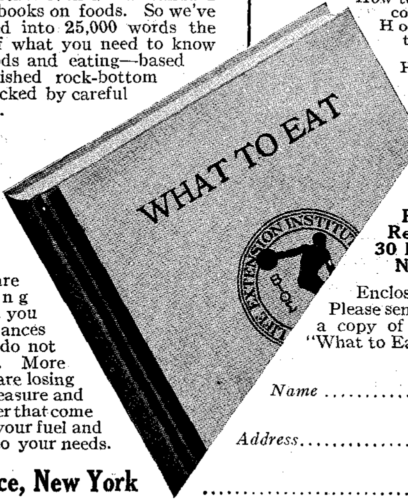

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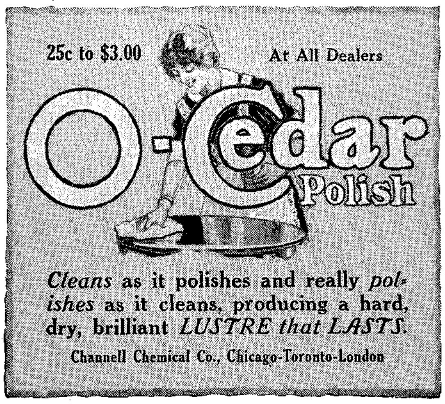
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THE SPICE OF LIFE

True Colors "Made in Germany."—Billy Sunday says that hell is really worse than it has been painted. Quite likely. The picture was painted some years ago by painters who had no opportunity to study the style and methods of Bill Kaiser.—*Columbia* (*S. C.*) *Record.*

Hope for the Zebra.—Next to snakes, the zebra is the most perfect case of delirium tremens in the animal kingdom.

But the zebra's case isn't utterly hopeless. His stripes are bad, but he might take lessons from a peroxide blonde.—*St. Paul News.*

Too Much Rivalry.—"How is your wife making out with those onions she is raising in a flower-pot?"

"They're drooping. Stirring the soil with a hairpin was all very well, but I don't think perfume from an atomizer is the sort of irrigation they need."—*Louisville Courier-Journal.*

A Nature Study

"What is that noise?" asked little James,
Out walking in the park;
"That noise you hear," his father said,
"Is but the dogwood's bark."

"And tell me why the dogwoods bark,"
He urged, "with such to-do!"
"I think," his father said, "they hear
The pussy-willows mew."
—*Cleveland Leader.*

Weeping to Order.—Danny and Bobbie had been left in the care of their big sister while their mother went out. At bedtime they wanted to "stay up for mother," but their sister relentlessly put them to bed. Danny maintained a stolid indifference, but Bobbie cried lustily. Their sister listened at the foot of the stairs, hoping they would soon be quiet. At last Bobbie stopt, and the listener heard him say:

"You cry a bit, Danny; I'm tired."—*Tit-Bits.*

Classified News.—The politician rushed past the official Cerberus into the editorial sanctum.

"What do you mean?" he roared. "What do you mean by insulting me as you did in last night's *Clamor?*"

"Just a moment," replied the editor. "Didn't the story appear as you gave it to us, namely, that you had resigned as City Treasurer?"

"It did. But you put it under the head 'Public Improvements.'"—*Sacramento Bee.*

Trombones Out of Step.—Colonel G—— is a fine commander, but not a musician. He sent for the chief musician of his regimental band one day and delivered this scathing criticism:

"I notice a lack of uniformity about the band which must be regulated. Yesterday morning they were out on parade, and the largest man in the band was playing a little bit of an instrument—flute or something of the kind—and you had the big drum played by a small man. That sort of thing doesn't look well, and must be attended to. I want the small men to play small instruments and the big men the big instruments. And another thing—I want the trombone players to slide their instruments in and out in unison. It annoys me to see them all out of step with their hands."—*Pittsburg Chronicle Dispatch.*

Habit.—"That new recruit must have been a bookkeeper."

"Why so?"

"I just noticed him trying to put his bayonet behind his ears."—*Boston Transcript.*

Ended the Good Time.—"A general good time was had by all until about eleven o'clock when fruit salad and cake were served by the B. B. E. Club."—*Prescott, Ia., paper.*

When *will* they teach cooking in the public schools?—*St. Louis Globe-Democrat.*

One Hundred Per Cent. Gratification.—"It must be gratifying to see your jokes copied everywhere."

"What gratifies me most," said the professional humorist, "is that somebody is willing to buy 'em in the first place."—*Louisville Courier-Journal.*

A Golf Handicap.—"I wouldna say McTavish canna learn the game," remarked Sandy, as they trudged home from the links; "but it will be deefficult for him."

"Aye," agreed Donald. "At times he will be like to bust, what wi' being so releegious and tongue-tied."—*Everybody's Magazine.*

Grown Up to Short Dresses.—Hub (meeting wife down-town)—"What makes you so late?"

Wife—"I stopt to shorten one of daughter's dresses for the party she's going to to-night. I can hardly realize that she's quite grown up now."—*New York American.*

Satisfactorily Explained.—Mrs. Youngbride—"Our cook says those eggs you sent yesterday were quite old."

Grocer—"Very sorry, ma'am. They were the best we could get. You see, all the young chickens were killed off for the holiday trade so the old hens are the only ones left to do the layin'."

Mrs. Youngbride—"Oh, to be sure! I hadn't thought of that."—*Omaha News.*

Royal Nickname.—"Edgar?"

"Yes, mother."

"What are you children doing?"

"Playing royalty. I am a Knight of the Garter, and Edwin is Saturday."

"That is an odd name for royalty."

"Oh, it is just a nickname on account of his title."

"What is his title?"

"Night of the Bath!"—*Youngstown Telegram.*

Gas-Masks Not Permitted.—There can be no longer a doubt that Germany ardently desires peace—at least with Russia. The "Fatherland" is willing to go to extreme lengths according to a dispatch from Stockholm. The German General Staff has issued instructions to German representatives at the parley, and included in such instructions is the following paragraph:

"It may happen that at the first meeting the Russian delegates will attempt to kiss the negotiators. They must be prepared for that, and if the commander-in-chief, Ensign Krylenko, rushes toward them with open arms, they must, in turn, press him to their hearts. The Fatherland demands this sacrifice of the negotiators."

We presume, that it would be considered a diplomatic blunder to wear gas-masks while going through the osculatory ceremony.—*New York Telegraph.*

CURRENT EVENTS

THE WAR

OPERATIONS IN AMERICA

December 19.—The Senate Committee on Military Affairs is discussing the advisability of creating a portfolio of munitions to deal with the manufacture and movement of military arms and supplies.

Louis E. Stoddard, vice-president of the Marlin Rockwell Rifle Corporation, testifies before the Senate Committee on Military Affairs to the failure of his company to interest the Ordnance Department in the necessity for the manufacture of machine guns in February and March.

Secretary of the Navy Daniels, in testifying before the subcommittee of the Naval Affairs Committee, declares that the Navy now has more than 1,000 ships in commission as against 300 two years ago, and an enlisted personnel of 280,000 officers and men compared with 64,680 men and 4,376 officers when America declared war.

A British transport arrives safely at an American port bringing 1,203 invalided Canadian troops and American soldiers who went into battle in France with the First Canadian Division, as well as 806 women and children who journeyed to England before the military law debarred the wives, mothers, and sweethearts of the soldiers from crossing the sea.

December 20.—Secretary Lansing makes public the series of secret German messages exchanged between the German legation in Buenos Aires, in charge of Count von Luxburg, and the German Foreign Office *via* the Swedish legation. A scheme to league South-American countries against the United States while Argentina remained neutral is revealed. The exposure is expected to force President Irigoyen to bow to the will of the people and allow Argentina to enter the war against Germany.

The Senate Committee on Military Affairs hears witnesses explain how the production of arms for the American Army was delayed while the Ordnance Department discust the difference of a fraction of an inch in a bayonet-blade, and the men in the Winchester Arms Company slept or played checkers while awaiting the decision.

December 21.—It is disclosed before the Senate investigating committee that red-tape methods have caused delay and confusion in the matter of Army supplies and that 15 per cent. of the men drawn in the first increment of 687,000 had not yet been equipped.

At the investigation of the United States Shipping Board by the Senate subcommittee it develops that only one vessel has been finished for the Government's merchant fleet since the formation of the Emergency Fleet Corporation.

December 22.—The Treasury Department announces that scores of letters written in invisible ink or code on the clothing of ships' crews bound to and from Scandinavian ports have been discovered, indicating a system of communication between the United States and Germany. Several persons are under surveillance.

Before the Senate Committee on Military Affairs, Col. Isaac Newton Lewis, the inventor of the Lewis machine gun, declares the Ordnance Bureau to be obsolete and incompetent. A. E. Borie, president of the Savage Arms Company, urges a ministry of munitions with a "he man" at the head.

December 24.—In his weekly review Secretary Baker says that "we should not

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be induced to slacken our preparations for war by Germany's latest peace propaganda.

President Wilson approves the report of the Selection Board which recommends the promotion of 186 officers of the Navy to the next highest grade. Twelve captains become rear-admirals; 51 commanders become captains, and 123 lieutenant-commanders become commanders.

AMERICA AT THE FRONT

December 25.—A dispatch from the headquarters of the American Army in France officially reports German atrocities against American soldiers. An American sentry has been found with his throat cut, and the official announcement states that "he must have been so killed after capture."

A dispatch from American headquarters in France states that several privates have been recommended for promotion. Among them are two who distinguished themselves while under fire at Cambrai.

THE ITALIAN FRONT

December 19.—Paris reports state that the Italians on the northern mountain front are being hard prest by Austro-German forces. Berlin reports taking 2,000 prisoners. At most points the foe's advances have been checked, but at serious losses to the Italians. The fighting on both sides is reported to have been desperate. A delayed dispatch from the headquarters of the French Army in Italy states that snow is falling again and all efforts of the Austrians to advance beyond Beretta have been frustrated.

December 20.—Paris reports that the great struggle on the northern Italian front, now in its tenth day, shows no sign of exhaustion on either side. The Austro-German armies are said to be forging slowly south with the chance that when the heavy snows come the invaders will still be in the mountains. The losses are said to have been tremendous. The official Italian report states that new Austro-German attempts to cross the Piave are repulsed. Berlin reports that 8,390 prisoners have been taken since December 11.

December 21.—In desperate attacks the Italians win back much of the ground lost on Tuesday in the region of Monte Asolone, Paris reports. The Germans are reported to be concentrating a tremendous force on the Italian front in an effort to batter through the French lines into the northern Italian plains. Their forces are said to have been tripled since the middle of November.

December 22.—Paris reports that the Italians are still driving ahead in their counter-offensive in the Monte Asolone district.

December 23.—A delayed dispatch from Italian headquarters in northern Italy states that in a succession of brilliant attacks the Italians dislodge the enemy from a great part of Monte Asolone, driving him back for more than two-thirds of a mile on a three-mile front.

December 24.—A Paris dispatch announces that the Austro-German offensive in Italy has been resumed upon a vigorous scale. Rome admits that the enemy had broken through Italian positions in the Asiago sector, but was stopt by counter-attacks near Buso Monte Salbella. German forces which crossed the Piave are driven back with severe losses.

December 25.—Paris reports that in a battle that lasted until nightfall the Italians won back most of the ground lost on the Asiago plateau, some of their abandoned guns having been recovered. Berlin reports the capture of Col del Rosso and 9,000 prisoners.

THE CENTRAL POWERS

December 19.—A slight decrease is shown in the *U*-boat toll for the past week. The British Admiralty reports 14 British merchantmen of more than 1,600 tons, 3 of less tonnage, and 1 fishing-vessel sunk by mine or submarine.

Ten persons are killed and seventy injured in an air-raid on London. Sixteen to twenty planes are reported to have taken part in the raid. One was shot down off the Kentish coast. The British Admiralty reports that British aircraft successfully bombed the Engel airdrome behind the German lines in Flanders.

December 20.—Paris *Journal des Débats* and the *Temps* report the people of Saxony and Austria as suffering great privations and desiring peace. Crops have fallen far below the estimates and typhoid and dysentery are said to be claiming thousands. There is a great lack of clothing, and cold weather is intensifying the suffering.

What purports to be an outline of the Kaiser's latest peace offer reaches Washington, where its sincerity is questioned as being intended for home consumption to show that the Allies are responsible for a continuance of the war. A dispatch from Vienna by way of Amsterdam states that the Unterhaus of Austria has passed a resolution by a small majority in favor of a general peace on the basis of no annexations and no indemnities. A Petrograd dispatch states that Russia has been informed by the Central Powers that they intend to make peace proposals to the Allies. In connection with these rumors of peace offers Lloyd George, in discussing Great Britain's war-aims in the House of Commons, declares that "complete restoration of territory seized by Germany and compensation for havoc caused would be the price of peace."

December 22.—A dispatch received in London from Maestricht, Holland, states that the Krupp munition-works at Essen have been ablaze for twenty-four hours.

London announces that the British armed steamship *Stephen Furness* has been torpedoed and sunk by a German submarine in the Irish Channel. Six officers and ninety-five men are lost.

Washington states that figures based on the latest available data from Paris and London show that German submarines are being sunk almost twice as fast as new ones are being built.

December 24.—In a Christmas message to the troops the Kaiser declares that the battles of 1917 prove that "the Lord is the avowed ally of the German people," and that for those who do not want peace it must be compelled with the "iron fist." The British interpretation of the speech is that the Kaiser, with the backing of von Hindenburg, is assuming a bold face to gloss over the condition of the German people and their increasing demand for peace.

THE RUSSIAN SITUATION

December 19.—The Executive Council of the Workmen's and Soldiers' Deputies proclaims a state of siege in Petrograd to repress disorders growing out of the looting of wine-cellars and shops.

December 20.—London dispatches state that the counter-revolution in South Russia is spreading northward and the struggle increasing in intensity. The Ukraine Rada, which opposes Lenine and his followers, has declared Ukraine a democratic republic and rejects the ultimatum from the Bolshevik Government at Petrograd.

December 21.—London dispatches state that the Ukraine has joined with the

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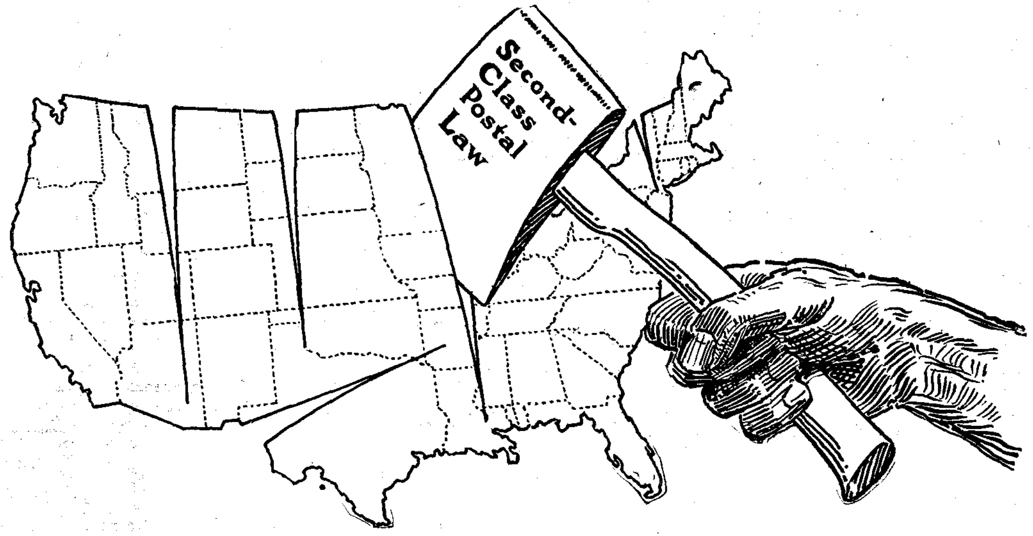
This result has been accomplished primarily by the Press—particularly the weekly and monthly periodicals and business papers. These periodicals have not local or sectional bias; they go to all parts of America, and serve all parts alike; their great service is in helping to bring all sections close together into one great nation, through a common understanding.



America Must Not be Split into a Half-Dozen Sections

Weak with the ILLS and EVILS of Sectionalism

But such a disastrous result is not only possible, but probable, unless the present law pertaining to second-class postage is repealed before it goes into effect. Postal legislation was enacted in the present Revenue Bill, which divides the country up into "zones" and increases the average carrying charge upon magazines and periodicals from 50 to 900 per cent.

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No. 4

Cossacks and that the Bolshevik Government has given the Rada forty-eight hours in which to reconsider its ultimatum. Odessa is reported to have definitely gone over to Ukraine. Mobs in Petrograd are said to be sacking the homes of the rich. The palace of the Grand Duchess Marie Pavlovna, widow of the Grand Duke Vladimir, has been looted in a search for liquor. Reports from Petrograd received in London state that the Kaiser has rejected the peace terms proposed by the Bolshevik delegates. Germany, it is declared, has demanded the release of the former Czar.

December 22.—Reports reaching London by way of Sweden state that violent civil war has started over most of Russia and that severe fighting is in progress in Petrograd. Copenhagen hears that Lenine is resorting to wholesale arrests in a desperate attempt to retain his position. Anger at the Kaiser's peace terms, it is said, may result in sending the Russian Army to the front again.

December 23.—A dispatch from Brest-Litovsk, Russia, to Amsterdam states that the peace delegates begin their session. The Bolshevik program is outlined and the German Foreign Minister makes a conciliatory speech. A dispatch from Copenhagen says that Emperor William has informed his Government that he contemplates going to Brest-Litovsk if an agreement is reached, in which case he will endeavor to assemble all the sovereigns of Europe in a peace conference similar to that which followed the Napoleonic wars. The Emperor is quoted as saying that everybody wished peace and that all the states must cooperate.

December 24.—Countess Panin, Minister of Public Instruction in the Kerensky cabinet, is sentenced to imprisonment until she returns the public funds which she transferred to the State Bank when the Bolsheviki took control of the Government. She denied the right of the Bolsheviki to the money for which she says she will account only to the Constituent Assembly.

December 25.—Ensign Krylenko, Commander-in-Chief of the Russian Army, reports to Bolshevik headquarters that the Germans are transferring large numbers of troops to the Western front against the Allies. Leon Trotzky calls the attention of the peace delegation to this fact. A dispatch from Brest-Litovsk states that the four Central Powers have agreed to reply jointly to the Russian peace proposals. Heavy fighting between the Bolshevik forces and the supporters of the original revolutionary party is reported in Siberia.

WAR IN THE EAST

December 19.—An official report received in Washington from France states that the Turks, before surrendering Jerusalem, carried off the famous treasure of the Church of the Holy Sepulcher and sent to Berlin the celebrated monstrance of brilliants.

DOMESTIC

December 19.—Mayor Smith of Philadelphia is indicted by the grand jury for contempt of court and conspiracy to violate the election laws in connection with the acts of outlawry at the last primary elections when Policeman Eppley was killed.

Washington dispatches announce that Government investigations by the Federal Trade Commission will be extended to the packing industry in an effort to probe an alleged plot to control the price and production of meats, feeds, fish, vegetables, dairy products, and leather goods. Health conditions of the Army cantonments, as indicated in the report of Surgeon-General Gorgas, and the causes of the delay in the ship-building program, will also be investigated.

December 20.—At the first day's hearing of the meat-packers' investigation before the Federal Trade Commission, Francis J. Heney, of California, states that he will prove that the packers control the Chicago stock-yards, dictate the prices of meats in American markets, and are endeavoring to extend their monopoly to other food-products.

December 21.—A. W. Croll, treasurer of Armour & Co. and financial adviser of J. Ogden Armour, admits before the Federal Trade Commission that Armour & Co. own 15,520 shares of stock of the Chicago Stock-yards Company. After gaining control, it was shown that a dividend of 150 per cent. was declared, of which the original investors in the system received only 9 per cent.

December 22.—J. Ogden Armour issues a statement in connection with the investigation before the Federal Trade Commission in which he asserts that no effort has ever been made to cover up the information sought by the investigators, and declares that no law has been violated by the packing concern.

The Senate Investigating Committee refuses to admit a statement by Food-Administrator Hoover on the sugar situation. The committee states that he will be asked to testify Friday, when he can make any statement he wishes.

December 24.—A dispatch from Fort Worth, Texas, states that two unidentified aviators were burned to death 5,000 feet in the air at Hicks field. The bodies were burned beyond recognition.

December 25.—A dispatch from Valentine, Texas, states that United States troops and the rear-guard of the Mexican bandits who hanged a United States mail-carrier are fighting in the vicinity of Candelaria.

Publication of Food-Administrator Hoover's report on the sugar situation, which the Senate investigating committee refused to accept, is authorized by President Wilson.

FOREIGN

December 20.—Minister of Provisions Boret in a statement before the French Senate announces a deficit of 36,000,000 hundredweight in wheat. The situation in oats he declares to be no better and the rations of animals will be reduced. There will be no more sugar for candy or cake-makers.

December 22.—An Ottawa dispatch states that the importation of intoxicating liquors into Canada after Monday next is prohibited and the manufacture will be forbidden after a date to be determined later.

The French Chamber of Deputies adopts a resolution depriving former Premier Caillaux of parliamentary immunity in the accusations against him for alleged treasonable dealings with the enemy. He denies the charges and demands a trial.

December 23.—Fifteen hundred killed, 4,000 seriously injured, 20,000 homeless, total property loss, $50,000,000 is the latest estimate of the destruction in the Halifax disaster on December 6.

December 24.—A Peking dispatch states that the Reverend Gilbert Reid, of Laurel, L. I., has been deported to Manila at the request of the Chinese authorities because of his activities as a German sympathizer. He was editor of the Peking *Post* and founder of the International Institute of China.

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INVESTMENTS - AND - FINANCE

HOW STOCKHOLDERS FARE WHEN A GOVERNMENT MANAGES THEIR RAILWAYS

WITH the taking over by the Government at Washington of the direction of our railway activities, interest has been aroused in the methods employed by the British Government in managing railways and safeguarding the interests of stockholders. It is believed that some features of British practise will be reproduced in this country, altho others are unavailable. *The Wall Street Journal* recently set forth the British methods in an article of which the following is the main part:

"While the actual management of British railways is vested in a committee of their general managers, with the President of the Board of Trade, a cabinet officer, as the nominal chairman, it is at all times and in all respects subject to the will of the War Office. The railways were 'taken over' by the Government under authority of an Act of 1871, which provided that compensation should be made as agreed between the proper officer of the Government and the companies, or fixt by arbitration on their failure to reach an agreement. Under the agreement as made in 1914 the Government took over the gross earnings of the carriers and assumed the operating expenses.

"Initially the agreement further provided that the companies should receive the same net earnings as they made in 1913, less the decline which should be found to have taken place in the first six months of 1914. Later, when the Government granted a war-bonus of two to three shillings a week to workers included in the Railway Conciliation scheme (chiefly the train-crews), the agreement was modified so that the companies should bear one-quarter of the cost of these bonuses, and at the same time the reduction of the guaranteed net earnings proportioned to the decline in the first half of 1914 was canceled. Subsequent war-bonuses, running to a total of 15 shillings a week for a part of the employees, as well as all bonuses to other employees, were entirely assumed by the Government. Also, the Government added an allowance for interest at 4 per cent. on the cost of construction of works brought into service after the end of 1912.

"The Government has admittedly not kept up the physical condition of the railways, except as required to assure war-transportation efficiency where it was most needed. Not only have branch lines been neglected, but some have even been torn up to release materials for the British military railways in France. But the Government has made specific allowance for maintenance and has paid over to the companies the sums which, because of shortage of men and materials, could not be expended for repairs and renewals. These funds have been invested in war-loans, Treasury bills, and the like. Such additions to reserves for the important companies aggregated $20,000,000 in 1915 and $50,000,000 in 1916. Naturally they continue to accumulate. Whether they will have fully compensated the companies for wear and tear not currently made good obviously depends in part upon the prices for labor and materials which shall prevail when the time comes to make the repairs. This is one of the uncertainties which still afflict the position of the British investor in home rails.

"Another of these uncertainties results from the fact that the war has introduced a scale of railway wages far higher than the prewar level. When peace comes, the question will arise whether wages are to be reduced to the old level. If not, will the companies be allowed to increase their rates sufficiently to permit them to pay the new wage scale, or something approaching it, and still maintain dividends? The increase of 50 per cent. in passenger fares and the abolition of holiday rates have benefited only the Government, as have operating savings due to the pooling of equipment, the closing of small stations, reduction of train service, and the like. Some of these economies will survive the war, but presumably many will not. The wage increases have been estimated to equal the present total of ordinary or common-stock dividends.

"As the Government took over the earnings and expenses of the carriers, it was not considered necessary to keep account of the service rendered in carriage of troops and war-supplies, or at least not to credit the carriers with earnings on account of such traffic. In a sense only is it true that the Government has had its traffic hauled for nothing. It has already had to make an appropriation of $30,000,000 to make good its guaranties of net earnings. Yet Mr. Bonar Law stated in Parliament that the bargain had proved a good one for the Government.

"While British railway ordinary stocks have preserved almost the same general level of dividends as in prewar times, the stock-market prices thereof have declined close to 25 per cent. since July, 1914. In the same period the average shrinkage of standard American railroad stocks has been not over 15 per cent. The comparison might be thought to suggest that our railroad securities still had something of a decline ahead of them under war-management, but the conclusion does not necessarily follow. President Wilson is understood to favor a strict accounting of Government traffic. Public opinion would probably not tolerate so serious a neglect of the physical condition of the carriers as has been unavoidable in Great Britain. Finally, the average yield on the present prices of American securities is substantially greater than that on British rails."

Interest meanwhile has been shown in a recent statement by N. L. Amster, the president of the Investors' Protective Association, which is optimistic on the subject from the point of view of the stockholders. He believes stockholders and bondholders have nothing to fear, that, in fact, Government operation of the roads would mean the saving of millions of dollars in all departments. Following is his statement:

"In whatever form the operation of railroads is to be taken over by the Government, I am sure that security-holders have nothing to fear and everything to hope for. The public has not yet grasped the full significance of Government control. The unification of railroads will mean increasing the capacity of their equipment and terminal facilities at least 10 or 15 per cent.—in other words, through common use of equipment and terminal facilities, the roads will be able to do full duty, and this alone will be equivalent to putting into use 250,000 new freight-cars, and a large amount of locomotive power.

"The Government taking over the operation of railroads will do away with hundreds of duplications in officials, city officers, innumerable traffic solicitors, etc. It will save tens of millions of dollars in the purchasing and other departments. It will shorten the routing of heavy freight through shipping over the most direct lines. In a word, it will revolutionize the transportation business of the country and save hundreds of millions of dollars annually.

"Most important of all, it will create a

World's Record-Breaking Crops in South Carolina

FARMERS OF SOUTH CAROLINA didn't need the stimulus of war's stern necessity to make them raise record-breaking crops. Before the war started, Z. J. Drake, Marlboro county, S. C., made 255 bushels of shelled corn on an acre and won the world's pennant. Even a South Carolina boy, Jerry Moore, Florence county, made 228¾ bushels on an acre.

Another South Carolina man, John B. Wylie, Lancaster, holds the world's record on oats. He produced 182 bushels on an acre. As for cotton, a bale an acre is the rule. E. D. Thompson, York county, raised four bales on an acre.

South Carolina's cotton crop last year was valued at the gigantic sum of $104,585,000. A large part of it was manufactured into hosiery and other cotton goods a few miles from where it was grown, for South Carolina has more spindles than any state in the Union except one.

Other leading crops in South Carolina were valued as follows:

Cotton	**$104,585,000**	
Corn	**36,169,000**	
Hay	**5,428,000**	
Wheat	**4,207,000**	
Oats	**7,200,000**	
Tobacco	**2,813,448**	
Irish Potatoes	**1,312,000**	
Sweet Potatoes	**4,825,000**	
Rye	**198,000**	
Rice	**6,000**	**$166,743,448**

South Carolina added further to the world's wealth by producing:

Manufactures (largely cotton goods)	**$109,462,693**
Output of Mines	**521,197**
Forest Production	**12,641,292**
Total annual production	**$289,368,630**

South Carolina farmers not only made wonderful crops this year and got high prices for everything they raised, but they have put in big crops of winter wheat, oats and rye to a greater extent than was ever before attempted.

South Carolina was the first state in the Union to mine and market phosphate rock as the basis of commercial fertilizers. This industry gives employment to 2,000 of her people and production amounts to more than $13,000,000 annually.

The whirr of machinery in cotton factories, cotton seed oil mills, foundries and machine shops all over the state blends with the buzz of the saw and the blows of the hammer and maul in the coast towns, where dozens of ships are being built to help win the war. In the cities business is booming. Army camps at Columbia, Greenville, and Spartanburg, with their hundreds of thousand men to feed and care for, have added millions of dollars to the resources of the people of the state.

New Year's Day, 1918, found South Carolina basking in an era of prosperity such as no New Year's Day ever witnessed before in the old Palmetto State.

This healthy condition of affairs is sure to attract attention of far-sighted manufacturers seeking fertile fields for advertising their products along the line of least resistance. To all such, the pulling capacity of the representative daily newspapers of South Carolina is suggested. They are the all-powerful mediums of publicity in this territory—and the most economical, as the rates are low and the circulation is concentrated in the bounds of the state.

For further information as to rates, circulation areas, etc., address any of the papers listed below:

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Fort Smith Times-Record
Fort Smith Southwest American
Little Rock Arkansas Gazette

FLORIDA

Jacksonville Florida Metropolis
Tampa Times
Tampa Tribune

GEORGIA

Albany Herald
Athens Herald
Atlanta Constitution
Atlanta Georgian and Sunday American
Atlanta Journal
Augusta Chronicle
Augusta Herald
Columbus Enquirer-Sun
Macon Telegraph
Savannah Morning News
Savannah Press

KENTUCKY

Louisville Courier-Journal
Louisville Times

NORTH CAROLINA

Asheville Citizen
Asheville Times
Charlotte News & Evening Chronicle
Charlotte Observer
Durham Sun
Greensboro News
Raleigh News & Observer
Raleigh Times
Winston-Salem Twin City Sentinel

SOUTH CAROLINA

Charleston American
Charleston News & Courier
Charleston Post
Columbia Record

SOUTH CAROLINA (Cont.)

Columbia State
Greenville News
Greenville Piedmont
Spartanburg Herald
Spartanburg Journal & Carolina Spartan

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Chattanooga News
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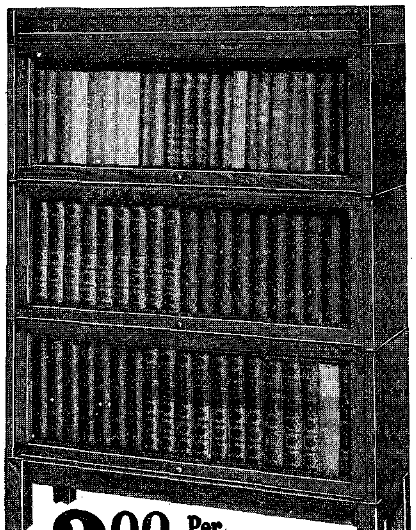

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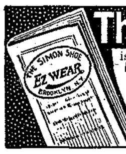

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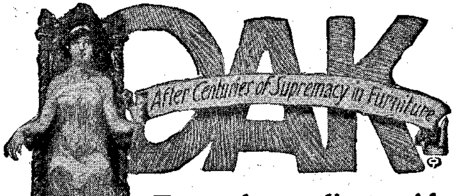
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situation in railroad investment that will make for stability such as has never been known in this country. The Government will practically stand behind all legitimate railroad issues.

"No one should fear that the President is going to put the operations of the railroads into the hands of impractical men or bring the railroads into politics. I can not say who the railroad dictator will be, but I have implicit faith in the wisdom and judgment of President Wilson."

Other features of the problem have been discust in *The Financial World,* which believes the problem presents to the Government "no easy job," and that the question of what is a fair return is debatable:

"The Interstate Commerce Commission has stated officially in its discussion of the problem that should the Government take over the roads for the period of the war there should be adopted 'suitable guaranty to each carrier of an adequate annual return for the use of the property,' as well as upkeep and maintenance during operation. The Commission adds that fair terms should be made for subsequent repayment by the roads for the sums spent by the Government. 'Suitable guaranty of an adequate annual return,' is an elastic term that might mean much or little. Many roads are not now getting an adequate annual return for the simple reason that the same Commission which recommends this form of settlement hasn't seen fit to permit the carriers to increase rates in a time of stress the like of which has never before been witnessed. An adequate return would have to take account of the abnormal costs of all materials, high labor, and it would perhaps not be the same in each case. A 10 per cent. return on the total amount of capital invested would not be too great in some cases—in others it would perhaps be too great.

"Were the Government to guarantee only present dividends and spend all the excess and let it go at that, it would hardly be satisfactory, as some roads like Southern Pacific, Atchison, Union Pacific, and Pennsylvania, are earning all the way from 8 to 15 per cent. on their stocks, altho they pay less in dividends than they earn. If the present earnings were guaranteed it would be satisfactory to some of the big roads and unsatisfactory to others, as some are, like Erie, showing a deficit after charges, and the shareholders of a road like New Haven would certainly not be enthusiastic over a guaranty of merely present earnings. The problem is intense in its complexity, and the only thing that appears at all clear, and which the great majority of public sentiment seems to favor, is that the running of the roads—that is, the actual physical direction of them—should be left in the hands of the present management. The railroads have not fallen down, but it is the strait-jacket laws that have, and that is where Congress should begin on the work of improving conditions in that respect."

WAGES AND THE COST OF LIVING NOW AND BEFORE THE WAR

In discussing the relation of wages to the cost of living now and in former years, a writer in *Bradstreet's* presents data of much general interest and significance. Official statistics, however, come down only to 1916; so that the writer has to be content with general statements respecting the trend of wages since the beginning of 1917. In 1916 it is found that weekly wage-rates in ninety-nine trades moved up 4 per cent. over those of 1915 and that in 1914 a like percentage is shown, but that a comparison with 1910 shows an increase of 11 per cent., while one with 1907 indicates a gain of 16 per cent. Furthermore, while wage-rates have been advancing, working-time has slightly decreased. Thus, in 1916 the regular hours of labor decreased 1 per cent. as compared with 1915, 1 per cent. from 1914, 2 per cent. from 1910, and 4 per cent. from 1907. Rates of wages per hour have therefore "advanced more than weekly wage-rates." In a collective sense rates per hour in 1916 were 4 per cent. higher than in 1915, 5 per cent. above 1914, 14 per cent. over 1910, and 19 per cent. over 1907. At the same time "compensation paid in the form of wages has not increased so rapidly as have retail prices for food." Index-numbers show that rates of wages per hour advanced from a relative of 84 in 1907 to 100 in 1916, a rise of 19 per cent. In the like period retail prices of food expanded from 72 in 1907 to 100 in 1916, the rise being 39 per cent. Index-numbers, based on a relative of 100 for 1916, are given as follows:

	Wage Rates per Hour	*Rates of Wages per Week Full Time*	*Retail Prices of Food*
1907	84	86	72
1908	85	87	74
1909	86	88	78
1910	88	90	82
1911	90	91	81
1912	91	92	86
1913	93	94	88
1914	95	96	90
1915	96	96	89
1916	100	100	100

The writer proceeds to present other aspects of the subject:

"Because of the relatively greater advance in prices for food, the purchasing power of wages has actually diminished, a fact that is borne out by the following official index-numbers of the purchasing power of union wages as measured in food:

	Rates of Wages per Hour	*Rates of Wages per Week Full Time*
1907	116	120
1908	114	117
1909	110	113
1910	108	110
1911	111	112
1912	106	107
1913	106	107
1914	106	106
1915	107	108
1916	100	100

"As heretofore stated, the above tables are based on 100 for 1916, the terminal year. On the other hand, some students of these movements may prefer to have the index-numbers presented on the basis of a comparison with 1907, the initial year. When 100 is accepted as the base for 1907 the data work out as follows:

	Rates of Wages per Hour	*Rates of Wages per Week Full Time*	*Retail Prices of Food*
1907	100	100	100
1908	101	101	103
1909	102	102	108
1910	105	104	113
1911	107	105	112
1912	109	107	119
1913	111	109	122
1914	114	111	125
1915	115	112	124
1916	119	116	139

"Still using 100 as the base for 1907, we get the following comparative index-numbers of the purchasing power of wages as measured in terms of prices for food:

	Rates of Wages per Hour	*Rates of Wages Full Time*
1907	100	100
1908	99	98
1909	95	94
1910	93	92
1911	95	94
1912	91	90
1913	91	90
1914	91	89
1915	92	90
1916	86	84

"While the statistics do not present any facts that have not been firmly imprest on the pocketbooks of the ordinary consumer, they do, however, give authoritative data, or the actual evidence."

FEW FOREIGN HOLDINGS NOW OF AMERICAN RAIL SECURITIES

More than a year ago it was estimated that investors in this country had absorbed about $2,500,000,000 of American rail and other securities held in foreign countries—a sum which should always be taken into account in estimating what the United States has raised for war-expenses. It is believed now, however, that foreign liquidation of our railroad stocks "has gone so far toward completion that it is hardly likely to be an important influence upon prices hereafter"—at least, that is the judgment of *The Wall Street Journal*, which has found that, when looking at the situation in this respect as affecting three large trunk-line companies, the securities of all of which have been favored investments abroad, "the volume of railroad stocks remaining in foreign hands is negligible." It presents in a table the amounts of stock of three important roads held abroad at various dates before and since the beginning of war, with the percentage to total issue, figures for the B. & O. later than July not being available. The writer goes on to say:

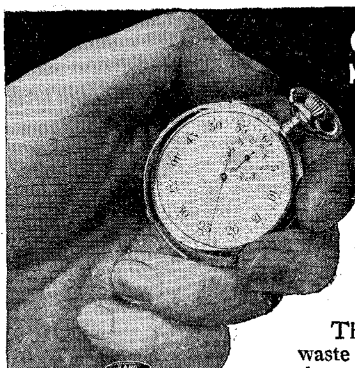
"In the case of this company the ratio remains comparatively large because, no doubt, of the extensive German holdings of its stock and the difficulties in the way of marketing them outside of Germany. Later figures, however, might show a reduction from the latest given in the table. To a certain extent securities owned abroad are kept in this country and some stocks so held have doubtless been liquidated in recent months.

	Total Stock Outstanding	*Amount Held Abroad*	*Per Cent.*
Pennsylvania Railroad:			
November 1, 1917	$499,265,700	$10,634,358	2.13
January 1, 1917	499,265,700	*14,000,000	*2.80
March 31, 1916	499,265,700	62,607,918	12.54
January 1, 1916	499,265,700	68,399,900	13.70
June 30, 1915	499,765,700	72,892,800	14.60
June 30, 1914	499,233,850	74,390,600	14.90
*Approximate.			
New York Central:			
October 1, 1917	$249,590,460	$5,100,000	2.04
October 6, 1916	249,590,460	7,600,000	3.05
June 15, 1916	249,590,460	16,500,000	6.61
January 1, 1916	249,590,460	20,573,000	8.24
June 30, 1915	249,590,460	23,489,000	9.41
March 1, 1915	233,390,460	24,500,000	10.49
June 30, 1914	225,581,066	23,958,200	10.62
Baltimore & Ohio:			
July 21, 1917	$212,314,829	$18,825,100	8.87
January 20, 1917	212,314,829	21,140,200	9.95
July 24, 1916	212,314,829	26,487,100	12.48
July 31, 1915	212,314,829	46,483,600	21.89
October 21, 1914	212,314,829	47,111,000	22.19
October 25, 1913	212,314,829	39,550,000	18.63

"The fact that the New York Central appears to show an increase after the beginning of the war is due to the consolidation at the end of 1914 of the Lake Shore with the Central. Lake Shore stockholders became stockholders of the New York Central automatically, whether they actually exchanged certificates or not."

PRICES AFTER THE WAR

In a discussion of the subject, "When Will the Price Break Come?" before the Advertising Club of New York early in December, Professor Seligman, of Columbia, and former Senator Burton, of Ohio, set forth some interesting views. With many competent observers the opinion has prevailed that a break in prices when peace comes, followed by a quick increase at least to the point they have now reached, will occur. Professor Seligman, according to the New York *Times Annalist*, "foresaw the taxing of accumulated wealth as a development of the present tax system to maintain the war," which would "reduce the power of inherited wealth and increase the influence of ingenuity, forcefulness, and intelligence." He cautioned his hearers



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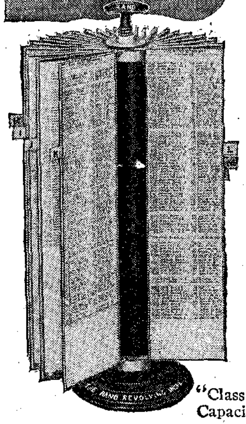

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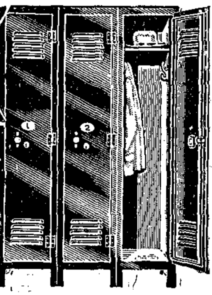

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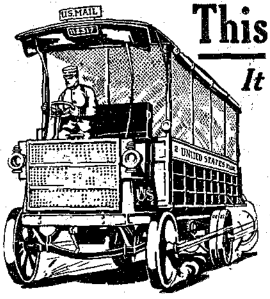

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to bear in mind that the country should be prepared for "a decline in business prosperity and prices, and, perhaps, even a panic in a few years." Prices and prosperity, he declared, ran in cycles, and the country was now "in what would have been a period of rising prices even without the war." Senator Burton, who, since leaving the Senate, has come to New York as president of the Merchants' Bank, and is the author of a notable book on "Financial Crises," remarked first that the cycle of price-movement was like the alternations of depression and prosperity in business, and then added:

"The price cycles are very much longer. In the last 108 years there have been pronounced upward and downward movements, each subject to interruptions, but in which the general tendencies have been very pronounced. In the last century prices reached a maximum in the year 1809, and a minimum in 1896–1897. After 1809 there were diminishing prices with considerable interruptions for forty years, until 1849 and 1850, then increasing prices for twenty-three years, until 1873, then diminishing prices until 1896-1897, then an exceptional increase to date with slight interruptions in 1901 and 1907. If we were to take the length of the last two preceding periods as a guide, a downward movement would be due in 1919 or 1920.

"As regards prices during the present war, there is every reason to expect a maintenance or increase of the present range. The relation between demand and supply has been revolutionized. We face the enormous demands of war, also diminished productive power, because some forty millions of men have been called to the colors. War is attended by waste and destruction. The only check has been the exertion of the strong hand of Governments in the way of regulation and the prevention of extortion. The present situation affords little light in the study of prices because of the very exceptional conditions which exist. After the war there will be changes—social, political, and economic—the scope of which no one can forecast. The question arises, will the upward movement, which was so much in evidence prior to the war, continue?

"Certain facts were very apparent in the period from 1896–1897 to 1914. The increase in prices was world-wide. It was independent of fiscal systems, tariff regulations, forms of government, or social conditions. Trusts and combinations were mere incidents, and if properly regulated might cause a decline rather than an advance in cost. The increases were greatest in countries of rapid development, such as the United States, Canada, Japan, Australia, and Argentina. One important fundamental fact was the enormous increase in gold production. Gold is the basis of the monetary systems of the most progressive nations. In the twenty-five years from 1891 to 1916, the quantity mined has been computed as equal to all the accumulations of the centuries preceding. The gold-supply influences prices both directly and indirectly. It is the basis of credit, stimulates enterprise, and broadens every field of human endeavor.

"The concurrence in every era of rising prices with increasing supplies of the precious metals is too marked and too uniform to be explained as a mere coincidence. Every period of discovery and development of gold- or silver-mining has also been characterized by an equally striking development of science and invention and control over nature. What is the responsible cause of the phenomena which have appeared? Is it not human progress rather than the added supply of precious metals? Is not the latter an incident merely? Again, there are indications that the phenomenal annual increase in the quantity of gold mined in recent years has reached its maximum. It is thus possible to ascribe too much influence to the production of gold.

"The very striking advance in prices can also be traced to the wonderful advancement which has been world-wide. Life means much more than formerly; commodities which were formerly regarded as luxuries are seen in almost every home. At such a time there is an earnest desire for better food, better clothing and housing, social diversion, and the indulgence of taste. Demands are likely to grow more rapidly than the means for their gratification. This is especially true of certain essential commodities. Numerous forms of raw material and of food are scarcer or less available. In the meantime population has been increasing, and average consumption even more rapidly than population.

"The present system of distribution, elaborate and convenient as it is, entails a cost quite out of proportion to its benefits. There has been an undue increase in the number of middlemen, and thus the gap between producer and consumer has been very much widened. It has been roughly estimated that in 1870 there were seven producers to one distributer, but only three and six-tenths producers to one distributer in 1900. No more effective method of diminishing the cost of living can be devised than through reductions in the unnecessary details and cost of distribution, or, as it has been somewhat severely said, 'the suppression of unnecessary distributers and other parasites of industry.'

"What will happen when peace is secured? There is one opinion that there will be a riot of speculation and that the victors, especially, stimulated by success, will engage in operations so numerous and extensive as to promote business activity and stimulate prices. There is another opinion that after the sufferings and losses of war the one main effort will be merely to live. The situation will depend upon the length of the war, the degree of exhaustion which follows it, the order of things which succeeds, whether human energy is to be exhausted in the maintenance of large military and naval establishments, or under a régime which looks toward peace and industrial development. We can hardly avoid the conclusion that at the immediate conclusion of the contest the cessation of abnormal requirements will cause a drop in prices. As regards the course of prices in the years following the adjustment of the immediate results of the war it is hazardous to make any forecast. There is no reason to expect that an era of unusually low prices, such as prevailed in the early nineties, will appear again. It may be expected, however, that the causes which checked the rising movement in earlier periods will again manifest themselves and probably in increasing measure. It is to be hoped that there will be better organization of trade and industry, that the progress of invention and adoption of scientific methods will have a potent effect.

"We may be sure that as a result of the war there will be new standards of patriotism, and of regard for justice and universal brotherhood. It is to be hoped that along with these beneficent developments there may be a return to old-time virtues of economy, both public and private. While again it may be said that no accurate forecast is possible, there is, nevertheless, rational ground for expectation that in the coming years prices will readjust themselves and the excessive burden of the high cost of living will be relieved."

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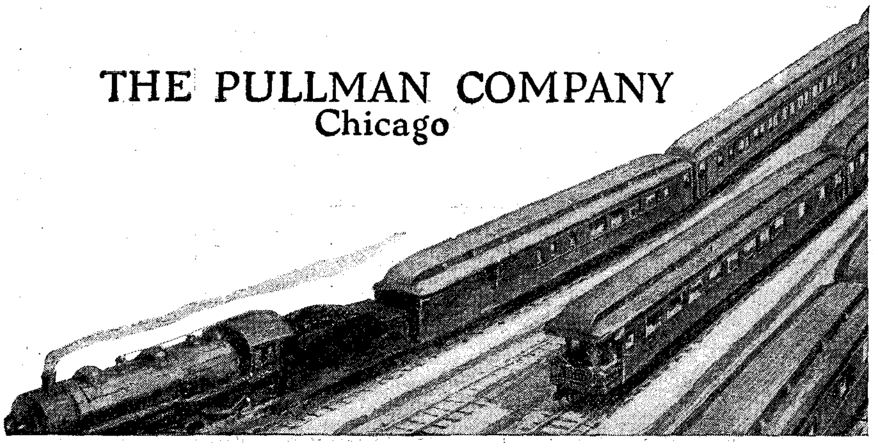

Liberty motor, and billions of credits which Uncle Sam has advanced to England and France—but America's supremacy in copper." Next to steel our most important output in metals is copper. Last year the American refineries produced nearly 80 per cent. of the world's supply of 3,000,000,000 pounds. Nevertheless costs of production rose enormously within the past two years, so that producers, and relatively small ones, have had a hard time even with copper selling for 23½ cents. The writer says on these and other aspects of the subject:

"Incidentally the increase in output in 1916 of almost 700,000,000 represents an expansion unparalleled in the history of the industry. Never before had there been an increase of even 300,000,000 pounds in any twelvemonth. It is instructive to note the growth of the copper industry in this country from year to year and the ratio of our yearly production to the production of the world as a whole. Note the following (in pounds):

	U. S. Refinery Output	*Inc. Per Cent.*	*World Output*	*Per Cent. of U. S. to World*
1916.......	2,311,000,000	41	3,064,384,960	75
1915.......	1,634,204,000	6	2,302,466,880	71
1914.......	1,533,781,000	*5	2,014,911,360	76
1913.......	1,622,450,000	2	2,194,829,760	74
1912.......	1,581,920,000	10	2,255,106,560	70
1911.......	1,431,938,000	*1	1,966,339,200	73
1910.......	1,452,122,000	3	1,928,884,160	75
1909.......	1,405,403,000	24	1,874,388,800	75
1908.......	1,137,962,000	10	1,646,877,600	69
1907.......	1,032,516,000	*4	1,589,808,640	65
1906.......	1,079,052,000	*3	1,596,972,160	67
1905.......	1,112,632,000	11	1,454,432,000	72
1904.......	993,829,000	..	1,454,432,000	68

*Decrease.

"In view of the inadequate labor supply, together with prolonged strikes in many important mining-camps in July and August, it is doubtful if the 1917 output exceeds 2,000,000,000 pounds for the United States, a drop of 311,000,000 pounds from previous year. The production of 1916 was stimulated by the extraordinary rise in the price of the metal to an average of better than 25 cents for the entire twelve months as against 17.47 cents in 1915 and 13.32 cents in 1914. In 1916 the quotational average was 28.46 cents, but the actual average price received was in the vicinity of 25½ cents. At one time so acute was the scarcity of spot delivery copper and so urgent was the demand at home and abroad that the price for a limited period went to 35 cents.

"On top of the natural impetus given to productive operations by the high selling-price, the output was further expanded by the most opportune arrival of 'new copper' in very large amounts—the product of the Inspiration property in Arizona and Kennecott in Alaska. A little later the big Chile Copper Company in South America 'came in' and added largely to the supply.

"To what extent American copper has contributed to European necessities is pictured in the following table of exports. It is to be remembered, of course, that these figures take no account of the enormous quantities of copper in the form of brass and other manufactures which have left our shores since the middle of 1914. Note the following exports for a series of years and the percentage of these exports to the American refinery output (in pounds):

	Exports	*Per Cent. of U. S. Output*
1910..............................	676,300,000	47
1911..............................	747,800,000	52
1912..............................	734,490,000	47
1913..............................	857,472,000	53
1914..............................	806,848,000	53
1915..............................	618,240,000	38
1916..............................	733,152,000	32

"While the figures for 1914, 1915, and 1916 might appear at first glance to compare unfavorably with the preceding years, it will be remembered, of course, that after the outbreak of the war in July, 1914, no American copper was shipped to Germany and Austria, and for years Germany was our best copper customer. On September 21 the Government through the War-Industries Board fixt upon 23½ cents as the 'official' price on all future copper sales, and all of the large producers say they are entirely sold up at this price to the end of the year.

"Altho 23½ cents seems a fair price to the producing interests, recognition should be made of the fact that there has been an extraordinary rise in the cost of 'making' copper the last two years. Important supplies, such as coal and powder, to say nothing of all construction materials, have greatly added to the operating expense, which, together with wake increases and an insufficient supply of labor, has jumped the cost per pound fully 50 per cent. Some of the little fellows are having hard sledding even with a 23½-cent selling price.

"Another perplexing problem enters the situation this year by reason of the excess-profits tax, which, when added to the corporation tax on net incomes, will boost the total outgo per pound of copper to figures which, in some cases, imperil the prevailing dividend rate. But all this *impedimenta* have already had reflection in the selling prices of copper shares, as note the following declines in a few representative copper share issues from the high of a year ago. It was in November, 1916, that practically all of the top-notch prices were recorded:

	Present Price	*High in 1916*	*Per Cent. Decline*
Anaconda........................	58	105⅜	45
Calumet & Hecla...............	430	640	28
Chino.............................	42	74	43
Copper Range...................	46	87¾	47
Granby...........................	67	120	40
Inspiration......................	44	74¾	41
Kennecott.......................	33	64¼	48
Utah Copper....................	79	130	40

"It would seem that with the war raging furiously and this country committed to billions of war-expenditure, the demand for copper must hold for a long time to come. In the arts of peace also, especially in these days of coal scarcity, electrically generated power is forging to the front. This means copper is steadily expanding in volume. In the great reconstruction days to follow peace—whenever that happy time arrives—copper should be utilized in constructive and electrical work on a scale never before approached."

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THE LEXICOGRAPHER'S EASY CHAIR

In this column, to decide questions concerning the current use of words, the Funk & Wagnalls New Standard Dictionary is consulted as arbiter.

Readers will please bear in mind that no notice will be taken of anonymous communications.

"G. M. C.," Milwaukee, Wis.—(1) To *mush* became a verb in Alaskan English. It is probably a contraction of *mush on*, perhaps borrowed from the Canadian *coureur-des-bois' marchons*, which means "let us be marching." *Mushing* is its present participle and verbal noun. (2) The *Chechakos* are Indians of the Potawatomi tribe, so named from Chechawkose, a chief who formerly lived at a village situated on the south side of the Tippecanoe River, about Harrison township, in Kosciusko County, Indiana. The reserve was sold in 1836. The name is spelled also *Cheechawkose* and *Chitchakos*. (3) The *malamute* is an Alaskan name for an Eskimo dog, said to have been bred from the Siberian wolf. The name is one of the corruptions of *Malemiut* (see STANDARD DICTIONARY, p. 1498, col. 2), which designates an Eskimo tribe that dwells on the coast of Norton Sound and the neck of the Kaviak Peninsula. The name is spelled also *Mahlemute*, *Malemukes*, and even *Mamelute*. (4) The word *mukluk* is an Alaskan name for a moccasin.

"J. H. W.," Langlois, Ore.—"Please state how long it has been since good writers began to treat the word *none* in its relation to the verb as singular number, and to whom may we credit the innovation?"

The dictionary says: "*None* is construed in the singular or plural as the sense, or the best expression of the meaning intended, may require." It is difficult to say who first employed the word in the singular, but it is not an innovation. See Shakespeare's "As You Like It" (act i, sc. 2, l. 19), written in 1601.

"B. S. T.," New York.—"I read recently in one of our dailies 'More than 9,000 Germans had been made *prisoner* up to Thursday.' Is this correct English?"

It is not correct but is becoming very common. There must have been as many *prisoners* as there were captured Germans. *Prisoner* is the predicate nominative and should agree in number with the subject. See Fernald's "English Grammar Simplified," p. 21: The predicate nominative is "a noun in the predicate, corresponding to the subject, and expressing the same meaning as the subject, or explaining or adding to the meaning of the subject."

"D. C. G.," Warren, Ark.—"Kindly explain the difference between, or the distinction in the meaning of, the phrases 'It can but fail' and 'It can not but fail.' Do they mean the same thing?"

With the ellipsis of "do" in these sentences, the first intimates clearly that the thing referred to by "it" can *do nothing* but fail; the second, that it can not *do anything* but fail. The form *cannot* tho common is erroneous as any one can prove by trying to inflect it.

"P. E. B.," Harrogate, Tenn.—The words "Alas, poor Yorick!" may be found in Shakespeare's "Hamlet," act v, scene 1, line 191. They are spoken by *Hamlet* after he has taken Yorick's skull from a clown who plays grave-digger. Yorick was jester to the King of Denmark. *Hamlet*, continuing, said: "I knew him, Horatio: a fellow of infinite jest, of most excellent fancy. . . . Where be your gibes now? Your gambols? . . . Your flashes of merriment that were wont to set the table on a roar?" The soliloquy is a reflection on the evanescent character of human life, which, as it progresses, considers also Alexander and Cæsar:

> *Hamlet*—Pr'ythee, Horatio, tell me one thing. . . . Dost thou think Alexander looked o' this fashion in the earth? . . .
> *Horatio*—E'en so, my lord.
> *Hamlet*—To what base uses we may return, Horatio! Why may not imagination trace the noble dust of Alexander, till he find it stopping a bung-hole? . . . Alexander died, Alexander was buried, Alexander returneth into dust; the dust is earth; of earth we make loam: and why of that loam . . . might they not stop a beer-barrel?
> Imperious Cæsar, dead and turn'd to clay,
> Might stop a hole to keep the wind away:
> O! that that earth which kept the world in awe,
> Should patch a wall to expel the winter's flaw.

"R. H.," Rehoboth Beach, Del.—*Belhaven* is a Scottish parish, on the coast of Dunbar, from which Robert Hamilton (died 1696) derived the title of the barony of Belhaven that passed to James Hamilton in 1777, to William Hamilton (1765–1814) in 1799, and to Robert Hamilton (1793–1868), who was created a peer of the United Kingdom as Baron Hamilton of Wishaw and Belhaven. The portrait of Lady Belhaven by Sir Henry Raeburn (1756–1823), to which you refer, is of the wife of William or of Robert Hamilton.

In the United States there are two towns called *Bellehaven*, one in Pantego township, Beaufort County, North Carolina, and the other in Accomac County, Virginia. In the Postal Guide the first is noted as *Belhaven* and the second as *Belle Haven*. "Lippincott's Gazetteer" gives also a post-village in North Carolina as *Belhaven*.

"W. L. D.," Spokane, Wash.—The meaning of the word *inmate* is not restricted to "one who is kept or confined in a prison, poorhouse, asylum, or similar institution." It means also, "one who lives in a place with others; as, one of the inmates of a dwelling." The tendency is to speak of persons undergoing treatment in sanatoriums as *patients* rather than *inmates*, because of the treatment they are taking, and the distinction is wise.

"W. W. S.," Ottumwa, Ia.—The two amendments to the Constitution of the United States that were not finally ratified were:

I. After the first enumeration required by the first article of the Constitution, there shall be one Representative for every 30,000 persons until the number shall amount to 100; after which the proportion shall be so regulated by Congress that there shall not be less than 100 Representatives, nor more than one Representative for every 40,000 persons, until the number of Representatives shall amount to 200; after which, the proportion shall be so regulated by Congress that there shall be not less than 200 Representatives, nor more than one Representative for every 50,000 persons.

II. No law varying the compensation for the services of the Senators and Representatives shall take effect until an election of Representatives shall have intervened.

Delaware rejected the first of these, Pennsylvania rejected the second, and Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, New York, and Georgia rejected, or took no action on, both of them, and therefore neither received the necessary three-fourths vote needed for their acceptance.

"C. O. H.," Akron, Ala. — Helgoland was formerly a dependence of the Duchy of Holstein, subject to Denmark. It was taken from the Danes by the British, September 5, 1807, and was ceded by Great Britain to Germany under the Anglo-German agreement of July 1, 1890, by which Germany ceded the protectorates of Zanzibar, Witu, and Somaliland to Great Britain in exchange.

"M. J. McG."—You state three propositions: (1) *Unlimited power* to tax involves necessarily *a power to destroy*. (2) *The power* to tax involves *the power to destroy*. (3) The power to tax *is the power to destroy*. The first and second of these propositions only resemble each other in part, but the first treats of "*unlimited* power" as "involving," that is, "having as a result or logical consequence" a power to destroy. That which is *involved* is necessarily to be *inferred* (Fernald, "Synonyms, Antonyms, and Prepositions," p. 307), but an *inference* is *a probable* conclusion toward which known facts, statements, or admissions point, *but which they do not absolutely establish* (*idem*, p. 188). The use of the word "unlimited" in the first proposition indicates power *without restraint*. Its omission from the second proposition weakens its force, but the substitution of "the" for "a" before "power to destroy" raises the "power to tax" out of association with all other powers of destruction (understood), and makes it the supreme medium by which such destruction may be wrought. The third proposition enunciates a theory as a fact which events in the early history of this country have disproved. Oppressive taxation caused the French Revolution, but France still lives. Taxation without representation brought about the Revolutionary War, and won the independence of the American colonists. Writing to General Washington in 1788, Thomas Jefferson said: "Calculation has convinced me that circumstances may arise, and probably will arise, wherein all the resources of taxation will be necessary for the safety of the State." And again, "War requires *every* resource of taxation and credit."

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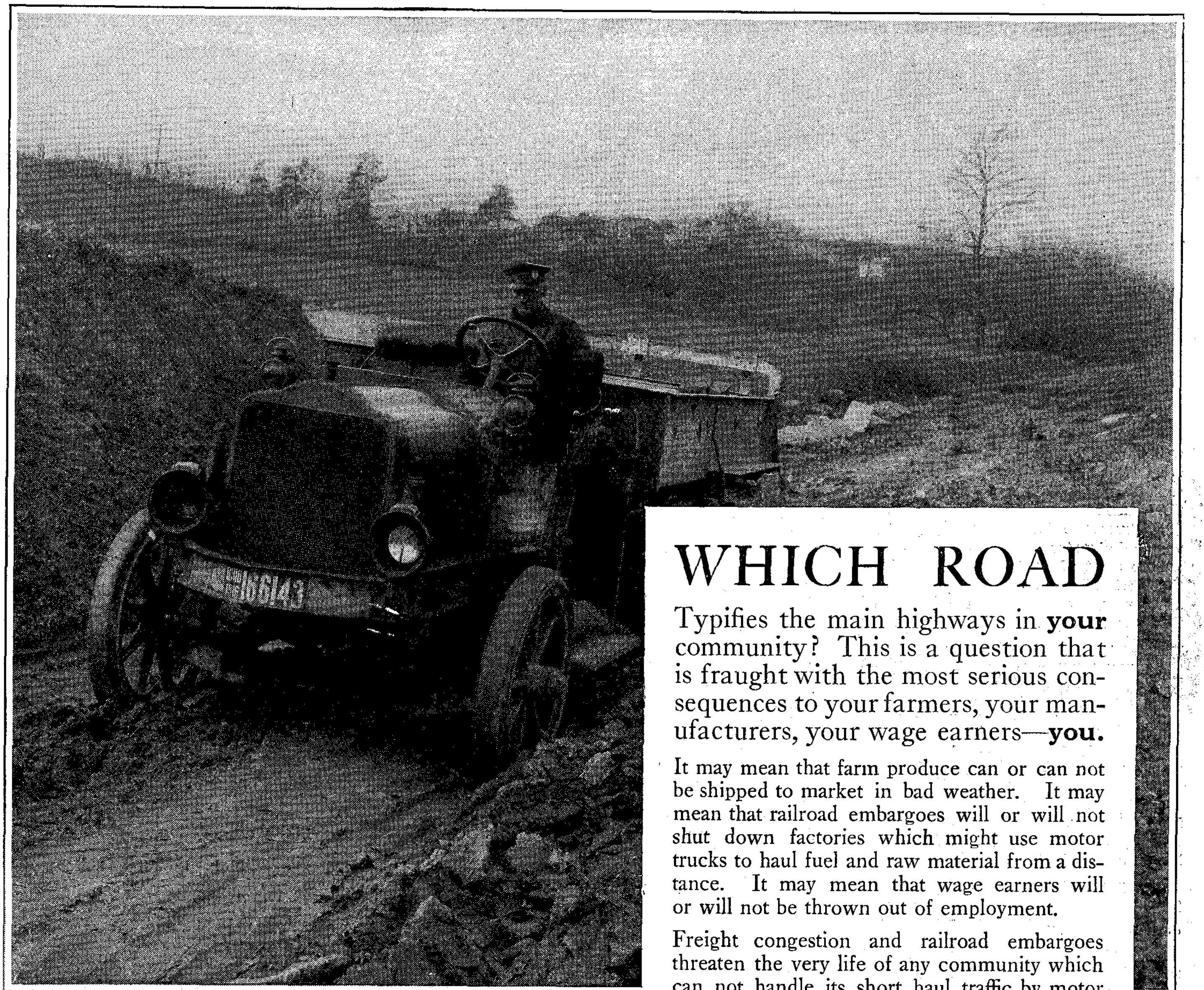

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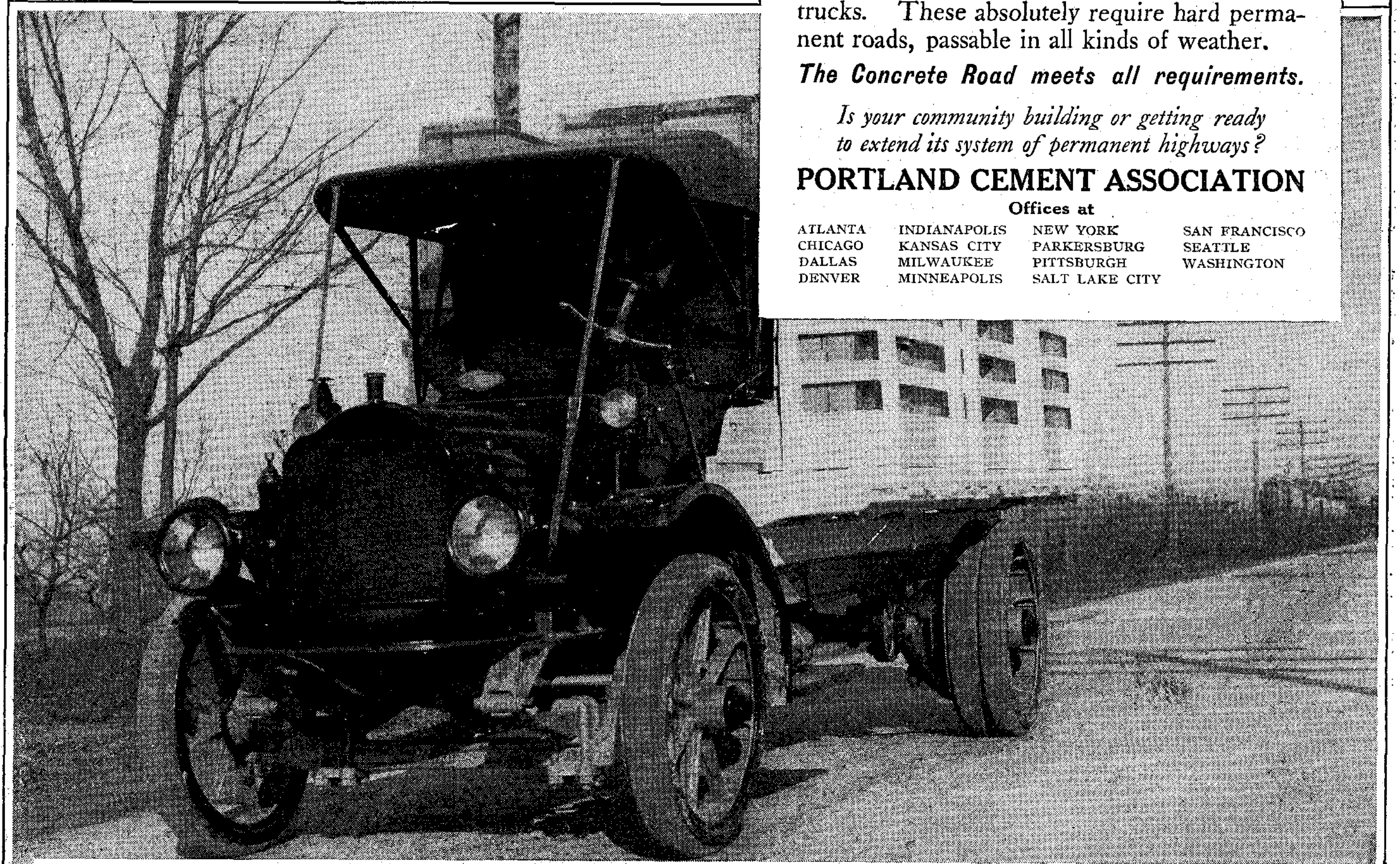

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